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BIG GUERILLA FORCE ACTIVE IN HUNAN

General Yin Lih-yen has 50,000 men under arms COMMUNISTS HARASSED

The biggest independent guerilla force in China today is commanded by Lieutenant-General Yin Lih-yen, who formerly commanded a regiment in Manchuria during the reign of the Nationalists.

Arrivals from Changsha, capital of Hunan Province, told the "Sunday Herald" yesterday that General Yin has about 50,000 men under arms and is co-operating with guerilla units in Kwangsi and Kwangtung.

Labour conscription in South China

Extensive labour conscription campaigns are in progress in Kwangtung and Kwangsi provinces, according to arrivals from the China mainland yesterday.

The informants said that the Chinese Communists are conscripting able-bodied men in the two provinces for labour camps in North and North East China.

They added that former Nationalist soldiers who were given the option of joining the ranks of the People's Liberation Armies or returning to their village homes are also being roped in.

They said that in some districts it is dangerous for a young man to go out alone. He is liable to be kidnapped by parties of Communist soldiers assigned to conscript workers.

The informants said that the Chinese Communists have advertised extensively in newspapers and by bill-boards for workers, technicians and skilled labour for employment in North China.

Campaign fails

The campaign has failed to bring in satisfactory results. As a result, the Communists are now resorting to conscription.

According to reports from Peking, more than 2,000 pedicab drivers and ricksha pullers have been rounded up in the city and sent to Manchuria and other parts of North China.

The Chinese authorities at Peking are also conscripting all unemployed persons in the city for despatch to the North.

The conscripted labour, according to the reports are to be employed in mines, road construction, railways, and on collective farms.

GENERAL GORDON IN YOKOHAMA

The American President's liner General Gordon arrived in Yokohama this afternoon from Hong Kong. The Gordon will continue on Sunday to Hawaii and the United States—United Press.

THE WEATHER

At 0600 GMT (2 p.m. HKST) a trough of low pressure stretches NEwards from the sea of Japan. Little information available but it is thought that a depression which developed over the lower Kuroshio is deepening and moving Ewards into the Yellow Sea to the N of Shanghai. Pressure is high over the Pacific to the E of Japan.

Today's Forecast: Moderate SE wind, cloudy and misty with scattered fog patches at first. Fair intervals during the day. Continuing warm and humid.

Yesterday's Weather: Maximum: 71.6 deg. Fahr. Minimum: 61.0 deg. Fahr. Sunshine: 2.5 hours. Rainfall: 0.7 mm. (0.02 in.) Total since Jan. 1—107.6 mm. (4.23 in.) as against an average of 187.9 mm. (7.4 in.) for this time of year.

Canton warning to merchants

"There is no middle road". This remark, made by Mr. Mao Tse-tung some time ago, was echoed on Friday at Canton by Communist General Yeh Chien-ying, Governor of Kwangtung.

In other words, General Yeh told merchants they must pay their taxes and buy Victory Bonds or else.

To show that he meant business, he sealed one of the biggest firms on Canton's waterfront for non-payment of taxes.

The firm was Eng Aun Tong, Canton headquarters of Mr. Aw Boon-haw's medicine manufacturing enterprise.

In an official public notice, General Yeh said that Eng Aun Tong had only paid up one-fifth of the taxes imposed. The original amount was 1,000,000,000 Jeunpiapiao.

Victory bonds

The notice added that Eng Aun Tong had also failed to buy Victory Bonds. Previous reports from Canton said that Victory Bonds equivalent to HK\$750,000 had been allocated to Eng Aun Tong.

In the same notice, General Yeh ordered Eng Aun Tong to send a delegate to the Victory Bond Committee to accept the Committee's allocation. Infringement of the order would meet with dire consequences, threatened General Yeh.

Mr. Aw had previously refused to pay the taxes arbitrarily imposed on his firm. He was not available for comment yesterday as he has left for Rangoon to pay his yearly homage at his ancestors' tomb in Burma.

PI CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUKS

Manila, March 25. Forty-one Hukbalahaps were reported to have been killed by Constabulary troops in the past five days' operations in Pampanga, Central Luzon, it was reported today.

Five companies totalling about 500 men took part in the operations against dissidents in the Mount Sison, Davao area and in the Cagaba swamps. The Government casualties were not revealed. — United Press.

His headquarters is in the mountains in Western Hunan. The informants said that most of the highways in Western Hunan have been ploughed up by Yin's men to handicap Communist troops in the event of pursuit.

They said that his men make frequent raids on small Communist garrisons and convoys. Peasants providing his men with information are rewarded with 50 per cent of the foodstuffs captured in raids.

Nationalist

war leaders

Two top Nationalist officers, on whom the war against the Reds will largely rest, were sworn into office yesterday, along with others of lesser importance, adds an Associated Press report from Taipei.

One of them is General Chou Chi-jou, new chief of the General Staff, who retains his former post as commander of the Nationalist Air Force.

The other is American-trained General Sun Li-jen, newly appointed Commander-in-Chief of Nationalist China's ground forces.

President Chiang Kai-shek officiated at the oath-taking ceremony, which was held in the Nationalist capital of Taipei.

Chiang, as President, is Commander-in-Chief of Nationalist China's armed forces, but there are signs that he is giving a freer hand to his top commanders—Chou Chi-jou, Sun Li-jen and Admiral Kwei Yung-ching.

Kwei is Commander-in-Chief of the Nationalist Navy, and perhaps the leading spirit in the blockade of Red China.

With Sun Li-jen's new appointment, his former post—Defence Commander of Taiwan—has been abolished.

Also abolished is the South East China Command, formerly headed by General Chen Cheng, now the new Premier.

For greater effectiveness

The streamlining of the Nationalist command is generally expected to give greater effectiveness to Chiang Kai-shek's war machine.

The Russians, however, are expected to throw a monkey wrench into it by supplying the Reds with an air force, in addition to anti-aircraft gun crews and numerous advisers.

Up to the present, only three signs of the existence of a Communist air force have been alleged:

1. The appearance of three strange planes near Shanghai during a recent Nationalist air raid on that city.

2. The appearance of a Communist scout plane over Keelung, the port of Taipei.

3. The action of three fighters which forced a Nationalist plane to land at Suichow in Northern Kiangsu.

TURKISH PLANE CRASH; 16 DEAD

Istanbul, March 25. Sixteen persons were killed today when a passenger plane of the Turkish State Airlines crashed on landing at Ankara—United Press.

COTTON SQUASHERS



Two Sudanese blacks tramp down the cotton into packing sacks at Wad Medani, Sudan. The 1,000,000 acres of the richest land in the Sudan—the Nile-irrigated "Gazira Project"—will soon be nationalised by the Sudan Government. The dusty plains have been transformed by irrigation into one of the richest cotton growing areas in the world. Started in 1925, the scheme is now the backbone of Sudanese economy.—A.P. photo.

Dairy Farm workers dissatisfied with Arbitrator's award

Workers of the Dairy Farm Company are not satisfied with the award of \$30 a month additional living allowance by the Arbitration Tribunal, the "Sunday Herald" learned yesterday.

The award, published yesterday, stated that an extra allowance of \$30 a month would fill the gap between earnings and expenditure for a family of two adults and a child at present living cost level.

The winners

Freebooter, the favourite at ten to one, romped home as easy winner in the Grand National at Aintree yesterday. Wot No Sun was second and Aethon Major third.

Liverpool beat Everton 2-0 in the FA Cup semi-final match played at Manchester.

(See page 24)

Japanese ships collide; 7 missing

Tokyo, March 25. Seven Japanese are missing many hours after the collision of two ferry boats today in the Inland Sea between Southern Honshu and Shikoku. Fifty-nine persons were rescued.

The ferry, Shium Maru, sank about 1 a.m., within five minutes after she collided with the Washu Maru.

The latter's lifeboats picked up the survivors, aided by 15 minesweepers which rushed to the scene from the port of Uno.

The Shium Maru was enroute to Uno from Takamatsu. She was carrying 16 freight cars.

The Washu Maru was bound for Takamatsu. Her hull was badly damaged and, after picking up survivors of the other ferry, she was unable to navigate.

The Marine Safety Board said Transportation Ministry officials have already chartered two other vessels to substitute for the ferries. Search for the bodies of the seven missing, which include the Shium Maru's captain, is continuing.—Associated Press.

FRANK BUCK DIES

Houston, Texas, March 25. Frank Buck, explorer of "Bring 'em Back Alive" fame, died here today.—United Press.

Owing to short notice, general reaction from workers was not ascertainable, but those contacted said the award falls far short of the expected \$90 a month originally demanded.

A general meeting of the Dairy Farm workers will be held in the next few days to discuss the award and other matters arising from it.

In labour circles the fixing of an additional living allowance for the Dairy Farm workers is taken as setting a new standard for allowances to other workers as well, and those unions who had applied for a \$90-a-month allowance but had allowed the matter to stand over pending the result of the Dairy Farm Arbitration, are meeting to discuss what action should be taken to renew their demands.

Better than nothing

Renewal of these demands is not expected until after the Dairy Farm workers have openly expressed their dissatisfaction over the inadequacy of the award and a possible request for an additional increase.

Workers in other labour unions declined yesterday to express any opinion on the \$30-a-month extra allowance to the Dairy Farm workers, or on whether they would be satisfied with the same increase to themselves.

"The amount is certainly not sufficient," some of those contacted said, "especially as many of us have a larger family than a wife and child, but something is better than nothing."

That seems to sum up the general reaction of labour, and from competent quarters it is not believed there is going to be any revival of labour trouble or demands at least for the time being.

For the employers, payment of the extra allowance will mean a not inconsiderable swelling of the monthly payroll for their workers. The Dairy Farm Company, the staff of more than 1,500, will have to pay out an additional sum of \$45,000 a month to their workers.

District Conference of Rotarians opens in Kowloon

The District Conference of District 57 Rotary International was formally opened last night at the Peninsula Hotel in a gala atmosphere, with more than 400 Rotarians, Rotary-Anns and guests attending.

Leading the distinguished guests present were the Governor and Lady Grantham.

It was the first occasion that a district conference was held in Kowloon, and Mr. Elmer Tsu, President of the Kowloon Rotary Club, the host club of the conference, extended a welcome to the gathering.

Highlights of the evening were an address of welcome to the participants by the Governor, and a message to Rotarians from Rotary International. Past Vice-President Dr. C. T. Wang, speaking in his capacity as personal representative of Rotary International President Percy Hodgson.

Sir Alexander Grantham told Rotarians that they have done an extremely good job in a world torn by bitterness and misunderstanding. With no barrier of race, nationality or creed, anyone who is interested in the aims and objects of Rotary is welcomed. Rotarians, in their modesty, have not claimed that if everybody joins Rotary there would be no international strife, but he genuinely felt that if the spirit of Rotary was extended beyond the bounds of Rotary, the world would be a better and happier place than what it is today.

That, said Sir Alexander, speaks a lot for the Rotary movement and what it means; and he expressed the hope that when the next District Conference meets, wherever it may be held, conditions will have so changed that there will be a much more representative attendance from all the clubs of District 57.

Positive action

Dr. C. T. Wang stressed the necessity for aggressive or positive action in Rotary's fight for international understanding and lasting peace.

"It is not enough just to meet together in good fellowship, as we have done this evening, and talk of international goodwill. We all know that it is through international goodwill and understanding

Soviet paper on U.S. policy in the Orient

London, March 25.

The Soviet weekly "New Times" said America's new policy in the Orient is the same old "imperialism." It added:

"Any attempt to undertake new imperialist adventures in the Far East will end in a still greater debacle than the one suffered by Japan in 1945."

The "New Times" article was broadcast by the Moscow radio and heard in London. It accused the United States of recruiting Japanese to help Chinese Nationalists bomb Shanghai and of using the Yugoslav Embassy in New Delhi as a spy centre.

It said the American policy calls for turning Japan into a base for war on Russia and China and for "military intervention in Asian countries whose peoples are struggling for independence." — Associated Press.

GREEK SHIP REFLOATED

Manila, March 25. The Greek freighter Kehren, stuck on a reef in the Gulf of Leyte since last Sunday, was refloated this morning.

American steamship agents, representing the charterer of the 7,000-ton former Liberty ship, said that tugs from a Manila salvage firm dragged the Kehren off the reef at high tide this morning.—Associated Press.

ON OTHER PAGES

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Election picture of Stalin 'faked'

Ann Arbor, Michigan, March 25.

Harold E. Stassen thinks something serious has happened to Joe Stalin.

He told young Republicans here last night that a "faked" picture of Stalin was used in Russia's last election. The president of the University of Pennsylvania, said he saw Stalin last year on a visit to Russia and knew the election picture put out by the Kremlin was "at least 10 years old."

"I know Stalin would have voted if he could," Stassen said. "And if he did vote, there seems no reason for putting out that picture." — Associated Press.

Australian minister visits PI

Manila, March 25.

The Australian External Affairs Minister, Percy C. Spender, arrived here today on a goodwill mission to further the new Conservative Government's policy of friendship and co-operation with its Asian neighbours.

Mr. Spender, accompanied by his wife, landed here in an Australian airliner at 4.15 p.m. and was given a warm greeting by Philippine Government officials and members of the Diplomatic Corps.

The visiting Minister said: "I bring from Australia a message of friendship and goodwill. We desire to work in friendship and close association with the Philippines. I am looking forward to conferences with President Quirino."

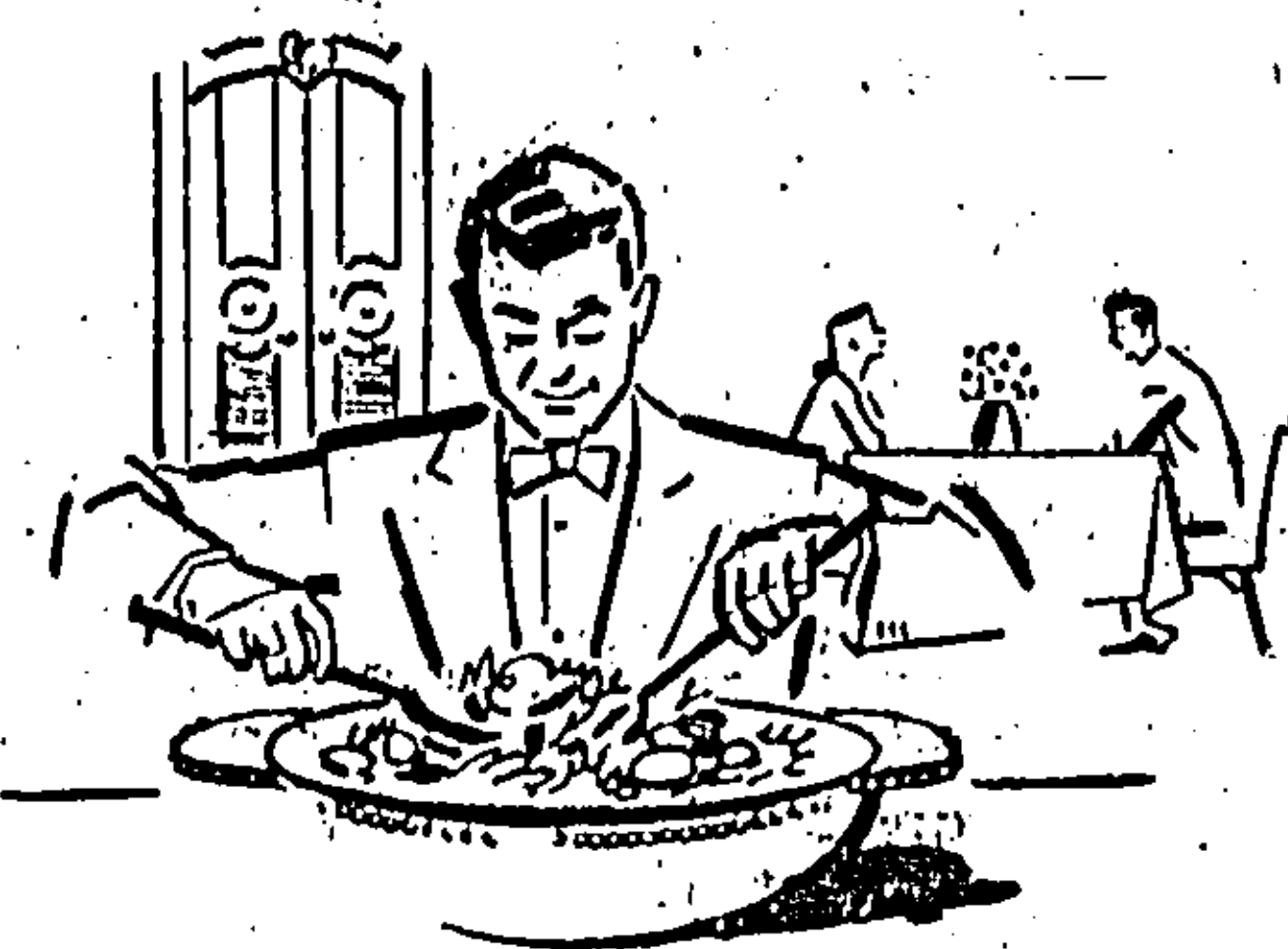
Mr. Spender hinted that he and President Quirino might discuss the proposed Pacific Pact when they first meet at the Manila-Mountain resort on Sunday morning. However, he said he does not yet want to comment on the organization as suggested by Mr. Quirino.

The Spenders will be dinner guests tonight of the Australian Consul General and Mrs. Keith Waller. They will fly to Baguio early on Sunday on the Presidential plane returning on Monday when Mr. Spender will address the Philippine Senate—United Press.

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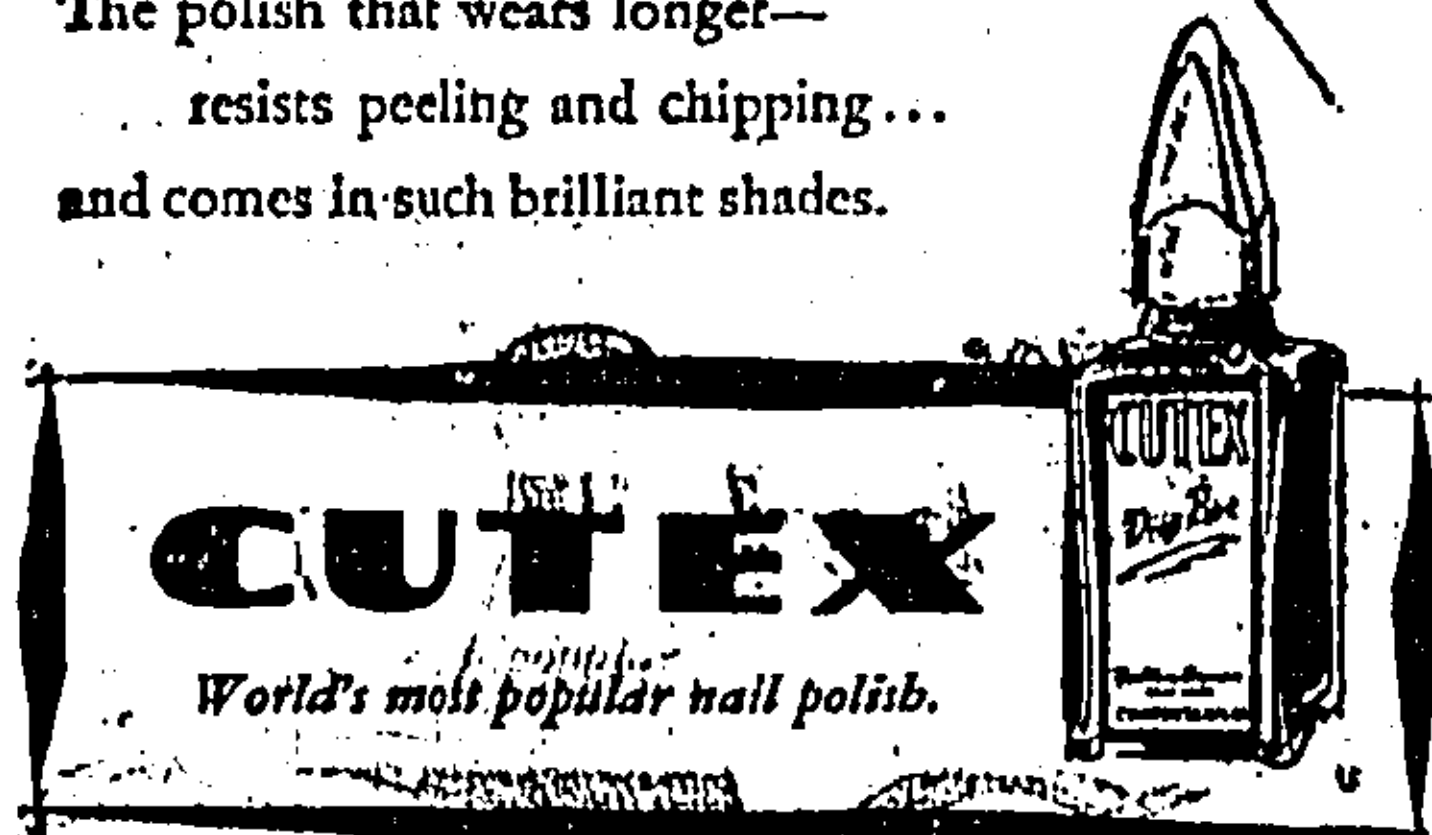
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French dock strikes spread

Paris, March 25.
Strikes in the French docks spread today to Dunkirk, where merchant seamen came out for 24 hours, leaving ships without steam or manpower. The Communist-led General Confederation of Labour has called a 24-hour general dock strike on Monday as a protest against the arrival of American arms in France.

Non-Communist workers have indicated that they will not support it. In Cherbourg, the main Atlantic port, dockers have voted to "load or unload anything."

The situation today is: Dunkirk: Seamen are on strike, and most dockers are idle because of the lack of steam power. The dockers are themselves preparing for a 24-hour strike on Monday as a protest against the arrival of American arms in France.

Marseilles: Partial stoppage is continuing. Brest: Building and public transport workers are idle. Cherbourg: The situation is normal.

The 16-day old gas and electricity strike, which affected mainly the Paris area, ended today with a decision by the Communist and non-Communist trade unions which took workers by surprise.

Later last night a union spokesman had announced that the strike would not end before Monday. The decision to bring the men back immediately was taken after an all-night debate, probably because of public feeling against the strike.

The drift back to work continued in the steel, building, coal and other industries.—Reuter.

Czech planes flee to U.S. Munich base

Wiesbaden, March 25.
The President of the Czech Air Lines was one of the 85 passengers and crew of three Czech planes which made unauthorized landings near Munich yesterday, the United States Air Force headquarters announced here today.

The statement did not give the President's name. It added that preliminary investigations by American Air Force authorities indicated that about 85 of the party expressed their desire to return to their homeland.

The announcement said that two of the planes were landed voluntarily by their crews but the chief pilot of the third brought it down with a pistol pointed at him.

Landed at intervals

The three planes, all DC-3 (Dakota) types landed at Erding, United States air base, formerly a German Luftwaffe supply base North East of Munich, at intervals during yesterday morning.

They had left widely separated cities in Czechoslovakia: Bratislava, capital of Slovakia; Ostrava, Northern Moravia; and Brno, Southern Moravia. They had all been cleared for Prague.

Most of the passengers in the planes had bought tickets to Prague and had no knowledge that they would land in the American zone of Germany, according to today's United States Air Force statement.

The passengers comprised 67 men, 16 women and two children. An Air Force statement yesterday had described all the passengers as "political refugees."—Reuter.

REDS WANT US\$ TRADE WITH JAPS

Tokyo, March 25.
Japanese Government officials today expressed concern over the unconfirmed report that the Chinese Communists have prohibited the loading of goods destined for Japan under the current barter trade deals.

The report, received by a foreign trading house with offices in Tokyo and Tientsin, said the Peking Government had decided to ban barter arrangements and require all trade with Japan be conducted in United States dollars.—United Press.



Mr. Ping Kohn-wing and his bride, the former Miss Chun Ching-fong, who were married at the Hong Kong Hotel.

Pedestrians wary of street crossings

The local public is fast losing confidence in the new traffic regulation respecting pedestrian crossings, a survey by the "Sunday Herald" revealed.

Whereas the police department still maintains a constant watch on the dense motor roads of the Colony, too many erring drivers are being allowed to proceed unopposed, to give any solid effect to the signs "STOP HERE," which are painted in white on the roads.

In Kowloon the offence is most frequent, especially at points where the police have deemed it unnecessary to station a constable. On the island motorists have become so bold as to infringe the law before the officer's eyes. For the policeman on duty, it must be said that the thick traffic is of little help to his conscientiousness in enforcing the law without bringing about a constant jamming of the streets in Central.

The blame is with the motorists and the chief and most constant offenders, the survey shows are drivers of public vehicles.

The pedestrians are confused. Many in Kowloon do not fully understand their rights on the road invested by the new traffic regulation. When told that the public enjoys safety and a complete right in these lanes, pedestrians are wont to be skeptical.

Said one of the "Sunday Herald" after he had been driven back to the pavement when half way across the road on a crossing: "Sure the sign may be there. But who am I to argue with a car or a bus?" It is safe to use the crossing, he added, only when there is no vehicle in sight.

The police department is also aware of the growing disregard by motorists for this traffic rule, a police officer said. No action is being taken by the Traffic Department, the "Sunday Herald" learned, but individual traffic officers are making it a point to ensure that pedestrians will be permitted to traverse along the crossings unmolested. One of these officers interviewed by the "Sunday Herald" said:

Vietminh preparing counter-offensive

Saigon, March 25.
The guerilla war in Indo-China will soon become a war of movement, the Vietminh (insurgent) Radio announced here today giving news of the counter-offensive recently ordered by the pro-Communist leader, Dr. Ho Chi-minh.

The Vietminh, the broadcast said, were repairing roads and canals in their zone of occupation.

French aerial observation in Tonkin, it is reported here, indicates that the Vietminh have put back into service several destroyed roads near the Chinese frontier.

Generally well-informed Vietnamese sources say the Vietminh have already received several heavy artillery guns in Tonkin from China and possess in Cochinchina one or more 105-mm field guns.

"April 4 will be celebrated as a day of friendship between Vietnam and the popular democracies," according to another Vietminh broadcast. The flag of the Government (or Ho Chi-minh) would be flown in Vietnam, the Radio said, and the Vietminh would be recognized as the legitimate government of the nation. The Vietminh government, the broadcast said, would be recognized by the Vietminh government.—Reuter and Associated Press.

BOOM IN HONG KONG SHIP REPAIR BUSINESS

(By Our Harbour Reporter)

The ship repair business boom—predicted by certain authoritative sources and exclusively reported by the "Sunday Herald" less than two months ago—is now in its initial stages. Half of the some 100 "laid-up" ships in port are undergoing repairs or are being overhauled in the local shipyards, practically all of which have been fully booked. Nearly 10,000 skilled labourers are employed to cope with the influx.

A survey during the week relative to the post-war boom in this aspect of Hong Kong's shipbuilding industry revealed that repair work has reached an unprecedented peak since the war. Kowloon Docks are accommodating 20 ships, Tak-koo Docks have eight ocean-going vessels and the Wing On Shipyard has eight. In the placid Shamshui Bay, several river steamers, tankers and reconverted naval craft are also being touched up. More are being repaired off Lai-chi-kok and Cheungshan.

The expected boom began late last month, according to certain informed sources among the Colony's shipbuilding circles. "This is the first time that repair work has reached such a high level," a senior yard official asserted.

According to the informants, some of whom hold responsible positions in the Colony's large shipbuilding organizations, who were interviewed early in February, the ship repair business would have a boom "in the immediate future."

They based their assumptions on the grounds that the Nationalist blockade has relaxed considerably, hence making it safe for the China Coast trade. It was disclosed that the local shipyards had been deluged with inquiries for space. There had also been numerous "feet" to put some of the laid-up ships in port into dock for repairs and overhauling.

Flow increasing

The flow of inquiries is still increasing. More ships are already on the list for accommodation. The majority are of ex-Chinese registry and have recently changed to the Panamanian flag.

A well-informed source declared that confidence in resuming trade with China Coast ports without endangering ships has provided the incentive for shipowners to send their vessels for repairs preparatory to beginning business again.

He mentioned that more and more ships running in the blockade have returned without incident. This has, in his opinion, evidently cemented the prevailing confidence of safe trading with Red China.

Another informed source stated that many former Chinese

ships have recently changed nationality—all to Panamanian registry. This, he said, has enabled the owners to send their ships to Communist ports without incurring total confiscation by hostile Nationalist naval craft. As a result of the change-over many Panamanian ships have been docked for repairs and overhauling before they run the blockade.

The boom in this line means the prelude to large-scale re-equipment of the China Coast trade, a senior shipbuilding official remarked. He was one of the first to predict the boom.

Employment problem

Because of the far-sightedness of certain local shipbuilders the inevitable problem of employment of skilled labour has been solved without difficulty. Most local shipyards are able to provide the required personnel to meet the demand for repair work.

The employment of skilled labour was in the critical phase immediately after the Liberation when there was a dearth of skilled artisans as a result of the war.

Certain shipyards launched "re-educational" schemes whereby personnel are trained for higher technical work and apprenticeship in modern "know how" in shipbuilding.

Moreover, the exodus from China due to the civil war has brought a great number of technical men, quite a proportion of these men belong to this line. Many have been absorbed into the local industry.

Hong Kong's shipyards are meeting this development with calm. Many are prepared for the expected influx. Facilities have already been installed for this type of work. Many shipyards have been equipped with modern machinery to carry on maintenance and repair business, which incidentally has been the main source of income.

Since the Liberation, very little shipbuilding has been carried out. Even today, prospects of a revival of this industry are still gloomy because there is no indication that general prices will be pegged down.

The ship repair business regained its pre-war capacity at the beginning of 1948. Local docks have been handling as much as in pre-war days. The Nationalist blockade has somewhat curtailed business since mid-1946.

Appeal to soccer referees to carry on the good work

An appeal to soccer referees to carry on the good work they were doing was made by Mr. A. E. P. Guest, President of the Hong Kong Football Referees' Association, at the Association's Annual Dinner held at the China Fleet Club last night.

Mr. Guest also referred to the high tribute paid to local referees by players and officials of teams which had visited Hong Kong recently.

The dinner was well attended and a very pleasant evening was enjoyed by all present.

In the course of his address of welcome, Mr. Guest said: "I have pleasure in welcoming here tonight our guests, the HKFA and the CAFA. Our association with the HKFA this season has been very friendly and cordial and the FA had done a great deal to assist the referees."

To criticize is one thing, and to be criticised is another. We have now on our active list three excellent referees of the FA and it is through their first-hand information regarding refereeing in general, as apart from being active, they are also members of our Association.

I am not sure whether the rule whereby their members are not allowed to be active has been rescinded, but the services of these men have been greatly appreciated, and I only hope the FA will permit them to carry on the excellent work they are doing.

Hard practice

"It is good to see Chinese referees, including in First Division games, and should they not prove too successful in their first attempt, I would ask them not to be discouraged, but to continue the good work as it is only by hard practice one can be perfect. I wish the CAFA and their Referees Association further success in the good work they are doing."

Turning to the Gentlemen of the Press, I thank them for their presence. We shall always do our best to give them any information within reason and in our power.

Fine gesture

"In referring to the Chinese Amateur Athletic Association, I take this opportunity to thank them particularly for the very kind service in supplying and delivering to us the many and various types of sports gear."

This is a very fine gesture. The Federation is doing a good job by promoting football among the Chinese Clubs in the Colony.

Personalia

General Sir John Harding, KCB, CBE, DSO, MC, Commander-in-Chief, Far East Land Forces, and Air Marshal F. J. Fogarty, CB, DFC, AFC, Commander-in-Chief Far East Air Force, are due to arrive in the Colony from Singapore tomorrow.

The C-in-C's are on one of their periodic visits to the forces in training here and will take the opportunity to hold discussions with local Service and civil authorities on problems of mutual interest.

Messrs. F. Pierre, P.E. Eugene, and Miss Ho Yuen-ki were among those who arrived in Hong Kong on Friday from Saigon by Air France.

Among the departures from the Peninsula Hotel on Friday were Miss M.M. Miles, Mr. and Mrs. G. Molasco, Miss H. Hildgaway, Messrs. J.G. Jones, D.J. Villafra, H. Small, F. Bronner, J.F. Watkin, F.W. Hamilton, H. Kraus, E. Moller and C. Fletcher.

New arrivals at the Peninsula Hotel on Friday included Miss D. Larsen, Mrs. P.S. Rojas, Mrs. G. Tator, Mr. and Mrs. R.J. Morgan, Mrs. J.C. Hall, Miss D. Goddard, the Rev. Mr. T.J. Fox, Major M. Oliver, Messrs. J.F. Malone, E.A. Taylor, D.R. Auckland, M.F. Hickman, T.D. Nettleton, and A.R. Dayton.

Mr. Al Richardson, General Manager of Luna Park, returned from Manila by Philippine Air Lines yesterday.

Upon his arrival Mr. Richardson said that while in Manila he arranged for new entertainers who will soon appear in Luna Park's Skyroom.

Mr. Edward O'Connor, Regional Manager of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Motion Picture Corporation, returned here from Manila by Philippine Air Lines yesterday.

Mr. O'Connor stayed in Manila for four days on business. He is expected to return to the United States soon.

Mr. G. Cutler, Philippine Air Lines official here, returned from Tokyo by Philippine Air Lines yesterday.

Mr. Huang Chi-lu, Commissioner of the Administrative Affairs of the Executive Yuan, Chinese Nationalist Government, left for Taipei by Hong Kong Airways yesterday.

Mr. Huang was formerly minister of National Exchanging University. At one time he also served as Minister of Internal Affairs in the Nationalist Government.

He is a close associate of the Acting President of China, General Li Tsung-jen, and General Pai Chung-hsi.

KMT MURDER SQUAD IN CANTON

Canton's police have claimed to have smashed a Kuomintang Murder Squad.

The Canton Public Security Bureau announced yesterday that the leader of the Murder Squad, Chuan Shu-hung, and 12 of his men have been arrested.

It added that incriminating documents and six revolvers were seized in the raid on the Squad's hide-out.

TALBOT HOUSE CONCERT

A concert of recorded classical music will be presented at Talbot House (Room 20), Macdonnell Road, at 8.30 p.m. today.

The programme will include: Till Eulenspiegel (Ludwig Straube), Mithras (Sergei Prokofiev), Song Cycle (Schubert), Scheherazade (Rimsky-Korsakov).

made it my duty to mingle with visiting officials and players among the Malayan-Chinese, Burmese and Filipino teams and obtained their "opinion" on our refereeing, and this is what they said: "Your Referees are unbiased and your refereeing is of a very high standard."

Speaks for itself

"This, gentlemen, speaks for itself. In all our interpret and representative games, against visiting teams so far, I have not witnessed a player being carried off the field on a stretcher or having a broken leg, a fractured arm or a broken nose."

"I ask you now to carry on the good work you are doing. We want more referees. Again, the show must go on. Before I close, I would like to thank our Secretary, Mr. Giffney, and the members of the Referees Association, who have made this evening, and also the Manager of the Fleet Club for the loan of the premises."

Mr. Guest applied on behalf of the Hong Kong Referees Association, which has been formed on the basis of the Chinese Amateur Athletic Association and the Chinese Referees Association.



"IF I HAD MY WAY . . .

...I would write the word 'Insurance' over the door of every cottage and upon the blotting book of every public man, because I am convinced that for sacrifices which are inconceivably small, families can be secured against catastrophes which would otherwise smash them forever."

Churchill



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CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

20 Words \$2 for 1 insertion
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10 cents every additional word per insertion
(Alternate Insertions 10% Extra)

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES, PERSONAL \$5 per insertion of 25 words, 25 cents every additional word per insertion.

Classified Advertisements, accepted up to 5 p.m. for publication in the following day's paper.

Replies for the Following Box Nos. are awaiting collection.

Replies will be forwarded to the Advertiser if requested on the original form which should bear their names and addresses.

A suitable announcement will be inserted free of charge if Advertiser's requirements are satisfactorily answered.

PERSONAL

ANNIE would like MR. HENRY ANNOTT or MRS. A. T. DAVIS to phone Mr. Wu 26959.

ANY ONE knowing the location of Costa Rican Consul Mr. Ruben Azon Leon please telephone 56523 room 110 or write to Box No. 580 "Sunday Herald".

LOST

LOST Kai Tak Airfield Identification Permit No. 422 issued to E.M. Hutchison hereby declared null and void.

POSITION WANTED

HIGHLY recommended, excellent cook boy seeks position. Speaks English. Clean, honest and hard-working. Apply Box No. 577 "China Mail".

POSITIONS VACANT

FOREIGN Import/Export firm requires a Chinese gentleman with hardware & metals experience and able to handle independent correspondence and telegraph. Good remuneration. State previous experience and conditions. Box 578 "China Mail".

WANTED Immediately English Speaking Cook Boy and Wife. Children Amah also Wash Amah. References essential. Apply 124 Broadway Street, Top floor, Kowloon.

WANTED the services of an efficient Spanish language correspondent after his office hours every day for one or two hours. Apply Box 556 "China Mail".

WANTED KNOWN

FRESH Dutch Gladstoll, top size, 12 latest novelties, special price. United States. Names on application. Also "Spaghnum-Moss" and "Plant-Chem" Fertilizer. Vandevon's Role-Agents-Anglo-Chinese Trading Co., R4, Pedder Building, Third 20053.

ANYONE going on leave and wish to find good home for piano for that period, please Telephone 57271.

RENOUVEE Dresses have beautifully cut gowns for larger figures. 501 Victoria House, Wyndham St. (Just past S.C.M. Post Bldg.) Tel. 38493.

DRESSES and Blouses (all kinds of materials) at competitive prices - from HK\$25.00 up, satisfaction guaranteed. Inspection cordially invited. Loo Kue Ladies Tailor, 22 Nathan Road, Kowloon.

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BEAUTIFY your garden with Dutch GLADIOLI flowers, new varieties. Also Iris and "Plant-Chem" Fertilizer. Vandevon's Exclusive Far East Agents-Anglo-Chinese Trading Co., R4, Pedder Building, Third 20053.

FOR HIGH Class Stationery and printing matter. VISIT CHE BAN & CO. Importers & Exporters Paper & Printing Inks. 58 Des Voeux Road.

LADIES, we have at your service all specialized operations for Helene Curles cool waves, machineless oil perms, hairdyes & manures-ROBE MARIE Beauty Parlor-Phone 50384-43, Hankow Rd., Kowloon.

PEKING ART RUG CO., 221A Nathan Rd., Kowloon, sell exclusively carpets and rugs. Please drop in and have a look.

WHY LIMP about with a painful corn or ingrowing toenail when a visit to Betan's expert chiropodist can put you right? Consult Betan's Beauty Salon, 1st Floor, Exchange Building.

CARPETS, Rugs, Upholstery cleaned in your home by modern convenient "DURACLEAN" SERVICE. DURACLEAN COMPANY, DEERFIELD, ILL. U.S.A. Agents George Lin & Co., 202 Bank of East Asia Building, Tel. 24408.

CARPETS & RUGS-Genuine Peking and Tibetan. Newly dyed and cleaned. Also "Plant-Chem" Fertilizer. Vandevon's Exclusive Far East Agents-Anglo-Chinese Trading Co., R4, Pedder Building, Third 20053.

NOTICE

CHINA ENTERTAINMENT AND LAND INVESTMENT CO., LTD.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Sixteenth Ordinary General Meeting of Shareholders will be held at the Registered Offices of the Company, King's Theatre Building, 5th floor, on Friday, the 31st day of March 1950 at 12 o'clock noon, to receive the Directors' Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st December 1949, to elect Directors and Auditors, and to transact such other business as may be properly transacted at an Ordinary General Meeting of the Company.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER HEREBY GIVEN that the Register and transfer books of the Company will be closed from the 22nd to the 31st day of March 1950 both days inclusive.

GEORGE Y. K. SUN, Secretary.

Hong Kong, March 18, 1950.

NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that SVEA ASTRID OLSSON 8 Village Road is applying to the Governor for naturalisation, and that any person who knows any reason why naturalisation should not be granted should send a written signed statement of the facts to the Colonial Secretary, Colonial Secretariat, Hong Kong.

LAMBERT BROS.

Auctioneers, Surveyors & Appraisers, Pedder Building, Telephone No. 20224.

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BY POPULAR DEMAND



Revitalize Your KIDNEYS

And You'll Feel Young-Look Young Nothing ages man or woman more than action caused through bad kidney action. This makes you suffer from Getting up Nights, Burning, Itching, Painful, Nervous, Headaches, Backache, Swollen Ankles, Loss of Appetite, Energy, etc. because kidneys which should filter blood fail to do so. Cystitis, kidney stones, gravel, etc. are all caused by bad kidney action. Get Cystex from any Chemist or Pharmacist to put you right or money back. Add 10¢ to 25¢ bottle with full letter and be completely cured in 10 days. 50¢ bottle with full letter. For details, write to: Cystex, 202 Bank of East Asia Building, Tel. 24408.

HARRIMAN REALTY CO., LTD.

King's Building (2nd floor), 9 Cornhill Rd., Hong Kong.

TO LET: Kowloon, New 4-4 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Rent from \$1,000 and \$10,000 or call from 24408.



Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Kah-ming Liu, who were married at St. John's Cathedral yesterday. The bride was the former Miss Vivian Yin-man Au. ("China Mail" photo).

Accidental death verdict in MacDonald inquest

A verdict of accidental death was returned by Mr. James Wicks at Kowloon yesterday in the inquest into the death of V. G. MacDonald, Assistant United Kingdom Trade Commissioner for Hong Kong.

Mr. MacDonald was drowned on June 27, 1948, off Green Island. Returning from a cruise to Ping Chau Island on board his yacht, the Felix Valens, with Mrs. MacDonald and a friend, Mr. Pier De Jong, Mr. MacDonald fell overboard while attempting to fit an outboard motor to his yacht.

Mr. MacDonald's body was never recovered.

Saying that Mrs. MacDonald and Mr. De Jong did all in their power to rescue Mr. MacDonald, the coroner absolved them from any blame in the accident.

Mr. Wicks, in his written verdict, said: "Victor George MacDonald, European, aged about 41 years, was reported on the evening of June 27, 1948, to the Marine Division of the Hong Kong Police to have been lost at sea on the afternoon of that date and his body has never been recovered."

"The death report, together with the police file, was submitted to the then Coroner, William Henry Lattimer, Esq., who decided on the grounds that the body had not been recovered and that he could find no suspicious circumstances, that a death inquiry was not necessary. Since then more than two years have elapsed, with the result that three persons, whose evidence is relevant, are not available. The first, Mrs. Beatrice MacDonald, has left the Colony, and the remaining two, masters of sampans (Lai Tsung-fu and Chan Yau) cannot be traced."

"I find that, on the morning of June 27, 1948, MacDonald, his wife and one Mr. Pier De Jong set out from Causeway Bay on the yacht, Felix Valens, which was equipped with a detachable outboard motor, for a cruise to Ping Chau Island, that these three persons were alone on the boat and that some time after 4 p.m. on the same day, when the boat was on her way back to Causeway Bay, and just off Green Island, Mr. De Jong removed the tiller preparatory to MacDonald replacing the outboard motor, which had been taken inboard and repaired, and that while Mr. De Jong was dragging the tiller across the deck, and Mrs. MacDonald was in the cabin, MacDonald fell overboard together with the outboard motor."

Accidental

"Neither Mr. De Jong nor Mrs. MacDonald saw MacDonald go overboard, and, indeed, there is no evidence to show how he came to do so, but I am satisfied that it was accidental, that the outboard motor stuck and suddenly moved throwing MacDonald off his balance, or that he stumbled or slipped, either because of the weight of the motor or because of the motion of the boat."

"Although Mr. De Jong threw a rope to him, MacDonald failed to grasp it. Mr. De Jong then fetched the paddle and succeeded in paddling the boat to within a few yards of MacDonald who failed to grasp a boat-hook and

Wedding

LIU-AU

Miss Vivian Yin-man Au, was married to Mr. Timothy Kah-ming Liu at St. John's Cathedral yesterday. The bridegroom is the son of the late Reverend and Mrs. F. H. Liu.

The Reverend George She and the Reverend Mr. Carpenter officiated.

The bride was given away by her father.

Miss Ho Kam-ping was bridesmaid, while Miss Kwan Lai-may acted as flower girl.

Mr. Arthur Kong was best man. Master Pang Kai-kack was page-boy.

The reception was held at the Gripps, Hong Kong Hotel.

Canadian ship sails with tanks for Nationalists

Vancouver, B.C., March 25. The Canadian freighter Argovian sailed with 75 Howitzer tanks for the Chinese Nationalists. She will call at Tacoma, Washington, to complete cargo loading before heading for Taiwan.

The freighter was picketed for two days by members of the Labour Progressive Party protesting the shipment of arms. The tanks are U.S. Army surplus. Associated Press.

Malaya Unions support Gov't

Singapore, March 25. The Malayan Government indicated today that as the danger of Communist infiltration into trade unions faded throughout the country, the existing legal restrictions on the unions will be progressively modified.

The Malayan Acting Chief Secretary, Mr. M. V. del Tufo, told this to the conference of All-Malayan Trade Union delegates now meeting in Kuala Lumpur.

The Commissioner General for South East Asia, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, said in a message to the conference that Malayan trade unionists had shown recognition that there could be no sound development of trade unionism in the country if Communist terrorists were to succeed in creating anarchy and chaos and wrecking Malaya's economy.

The chairman of the conference, a leading Malayan railway trade unionist, Mr. M. P. Rajagopal, said that the unions were solidly behind the Government in the affair to end the Communist terrorism. -Reuter.

Court Brevities

Pleading not guilty to a charge of common assault, Craftsmen A. Patterson and E. J. Robinson, of the 16th Infantry Workshop, Hungnam, were remanded two days by Mr. James Wicks at Kowloon yesterday.

A charge of stealing 35 cents from James Shun Tive in Nathan Road on March 17 was withdrawn against them.

A fine of \$125 was imposed on Li Tak, shop fook, by Mr. Wicks at Kowloon yesterday for driving a car without a licence.

Inspector J. H. Evans told the Court that on Friday night defendant drove along Clear Water Bay Road and while making a "U" turn overturned the car. Upon inquiry it was found that defendant had only a learner's licence which had expired.

On a charge of cruelty to animals, Hui Sum, 22 Waterloo Road, was fined \$25 by Mr. Wicks at Kowloon yesterday.

Inspector Evans said that defendant was caught with 53 live chickens crammed into a crate measuring 14 by 24 feet.

Explaining, defendant said that while in Shumchun on Friday afternoon there was an air raid alarm and that there was no time to find a bigger crate.

A GOOD PIPE IS AN INVESTMENT IN DAILY PLEASURE



\$12.50

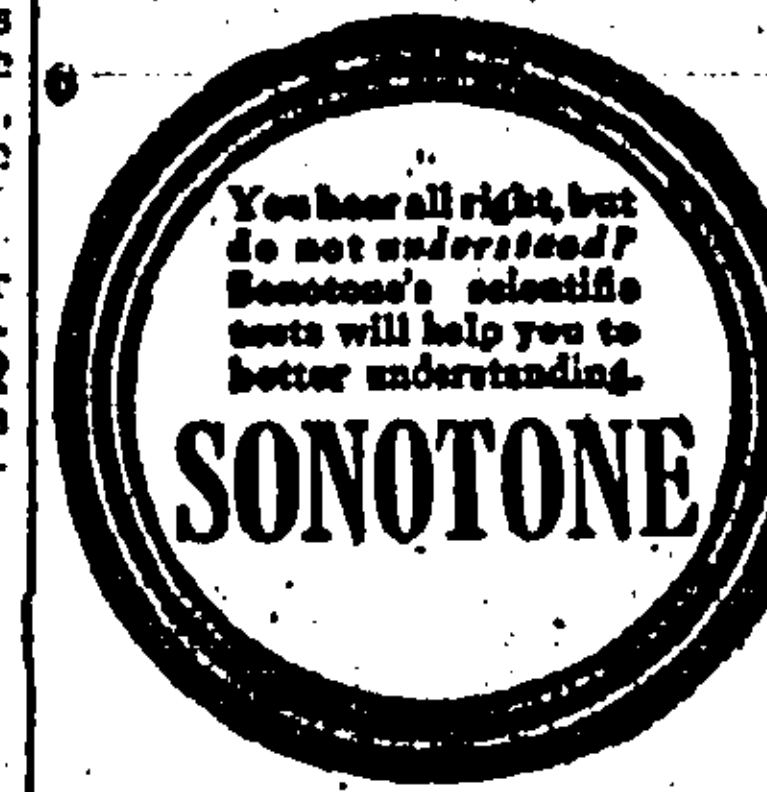
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AVAILABLE AT INGENOHL'S GLOUCESTER ARCADE AND OTHER TOBACCONISTS FOR A COOL AND DRY SMOKE

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WHOLE SALE & RETAIL CHEN BROS. CURIOS CO. 21 Wyndham St. H. K.



Sole Distributors: ED LAMB & CO. Room 300, 82a Hoi Bldg. 12, Queen's Road, C. Tel. 38181.

STOCK-TAKING

SALE RUGS & FLOOR COVERINGS. 10% TO 30% DISCOUNT UNTIL 31st MARCH

CARPET INDUSTRIES 63, Austin Road, Kowloon

Your hair can be made much more BEAUTIFUL & GLAMOROUS by going to HOLLYWOOD BEAUTY PARLOUR 15 Cameron Road, Kowloon. (Telephone 59249)

LADIES Cold Wave \$25.00 Machineless P. Wave 20.00 Shampoo & Set 4.50 GENTLEMEN Haircut, Shave & Shampoo \$ 8.50

YIP PIANER Music, Musical Instruments, and Gramophone Records. Please call at KING'S MUSIC CO. 5, Chiu Lung Street, H.K. Telephone: 30439.

SERVICE TO OFFER DENNIS & CO., LTD. (White Anti-Extermination Dept.)

Offers service in White Anti-Extermination. Just make a call on the telephone and our Technician will be at your service for Free Inspection. TEL: 32913 & 83324.

UNION HOUSE

221-223, Nathan Road, Kowloon Telephone: 55525 Cable Add: "UNIONHOUSE" Situated at convenient and residential centre. Modern Equipment and Excellent Service. Comfortable and pleasant surroundings. Call or phone for reservations.

LOW PRICE!

Calculators, Typewriters, Carbons & Ribbons

The World Typewriter Co. 18, Wallington St., Tel. 24408, Kowloon.

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TIENTSIN CHEMICAL WASHED RUGS FIRST QUALITY AT FACTORY PRICES

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Agents HONGKONG & SHANGHAI LACE CO. (LOON KEE)

RODO HOUSE

210, Tai Po Rd., Kowloon, Tel. 51977 Cable Address: "RODOHOUSE"

A high class modern hotel, serving all dining facilities and visitors the best service at moderate rates. Private dining room serves excellent Chinese and European food.

The location is quiet and convenient. Ideal for guests who wish to make their home temporarily in Hong Kong. Ask for special monthly rates. Starting from \$14 per day.

"YOU FEEL AT HOME" IN RODO HOUSE" is our motto.

T. H. Chan, (Manager).

(At Junction Tai Po Road & Castle Peak Road, Shamshuipo, New Territories, 6, 8A & 12)



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RUGS

JUST RECEIVED LARGE STOCK OF

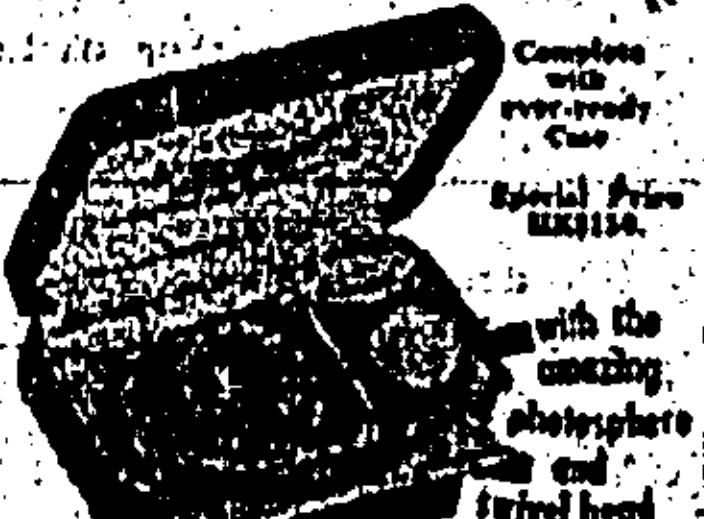
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AIR CONDITIONED Fine Grade Development, Printing and Engraving for your sign. QUEEN'S ROAD, C. TEL. 57254 OFFSHORE QUEEN'S THEATRE

A. WHITE & CO.

JANUARY

(December 21-January 19)

Link-ups of the first importance are likely to materialise this week and a contract or legal document may be signed about Friday. Note, though, that whatever is undertaken about this time will entail a good deal of energy and possibly some controversy. Financially a prosperous week.

FEBRUARY

(January 20-February 18)

Family finance needs careful thought and still more careful negotiation this week. But by Friday you should have got much of what you want. Somewhat difficult period in personal affairs; be careful you don't make enemies among older people.

MARCH

(February 19-March 20)

A link-up that has endured for some time may enter upon a difficult phase in the next few days. Worthwhile sticking to your guns in spite of argument and opposition. Some likelihood of gain through speculation or through entertainment and social schemes mid-week.

APRIL

(March 21-April 20)

Business change-over may have to be carried through in a hurry. Alternatively, a dependent—probably someone older, than yourself—becomes difficult or expensive. Be careful to finish off half-completed jobs before you start anything new.

MAY

(April 21-May 20)

Propitious week provided you keep clear of speculation or gambling. Ambitious business undertaking could probably be fixed up and final details concluded by Friday. Socially a difficult period; on no account revive old quarrels.

JUNE

(May 21-June 20)

Some difficulty may arise about housing problems or domestic routine in next few days. Be careful you don't take on too much. Alternatively, visitors at home may be more troublesome than you expected.

JULY

(June 21-July 20)

Important undertaking concluded by correspondence some time this week. Result may be a journey later in year. A good deal of money spent but income should be more than satisfactory.

AUGUST

(July 21-August 21)

Repayment of an old debt may coincide with the revival of a long-standing claim. Possibly it becomes necessary to spend money on a dependent or employee. Good news from abroad and at least one useful link-up made mid-week.

Eczema Itch

Killed in 7 Minutes

Your skin has nearly 10 million tiny seams and pores where germs hide and cause terrible itching, cracking, eczema, psoriasis, burning, stinging, itching, and other skin troubles. Ordinary treatments give only temporary relief because they do not kill the germ cause. The new discovery, Nixoderm, kills the germs in 7 minutes! It guarantees to give you a soft, clear, attractive, smooth skin in one week, or money back on return of empty package. Get guaranteed Nixoderm from your chemist today and remove the red cause of skin trouble.

Nixoderm

For Skin Troubles

WHAT THE STARS FORETELL

By R.H. Naylor

SEPTEMBER

(August 22-September 22)

If you are sufficiently tenacious, an end could be made to a long-standing argument in next few days. Better get existing problems cleared up before you consider new ventures or travel. Good news of a friend who has been through a difficult phase.

OCTOBER

(September 23-October 23)

If you have a grievance don't hesitate to air it. Keeping difficulties to yourself would merely tend to further trouble. Changes that you have hoped to stage off may become necessary late in week.

NOVEMBER

(October 24-November 22)

Easy to be drawn into a friend's difficulties unless you are careful. Or maybe an old love affair or good friendship spoils a new association. Financially all's well particularly if you are interested in land or property.

DECEMBER

(November 23-December 20)

Renewed business activity may coincide with clashes with older people of employer. But what you may lose in routine work is made up by speculative gains and successful new schemes. Good for publicity and travel.

SUNDAY, MARCH 26:

FOR MOST OF US: Some what stormy atmosphere most of day but good nevertheless for fresh contacts and adventure. Don't neglect keep-fit precautions this evening. FOR LUCK TODAY WEAR OR USE: Wine red, 3, Amethyst.

BIRTHDAY FORECAST:

From the financial angle this should be a year to remember. Throughout 1950-51 you should have few, if any, money troubles. On the contrary, it will probably be a bumper year where income is concerned. But from the point of view of personal happiness all is not so rosy.

If you are aiming at a better job, you will probably get it in the next few months. June and July are likely to be important months in anything that affects your standing and income. Later in the year—probably about Christmas time—you are likely to benefit through windfalls, "gambler's luck."

But don't expect your new prosperity to make your life any easier. Quarrels are likely to mark your progress through this period of your existence. Also, you will tend to fall out with people who could be useful to you—notably employer or senior colleagues.

You may have to travel but you are not likely to benefit from journeys. If you have to be much on the move, take special pains to keep fit. Don't move house if you can help it; you will be better off both mentally and physically if you stay in your existing environment.

If married, beware of family feuds spoiling your domestic peace in the next few months. If unmarried, it will be an outstanding year for romantic adventures and new friendships but portents are not good for marriage. Socially you will find it a difficult time, for one group of friends, though attractive and inspiring, will tend to set you at variance with the rest of your choice.

Financially all's well though you are not likely to make spe-

In this weekly series of articles, one of the world's foremost experts in predicting the future gives his opinions on what you personally can expect in the weeks and months to come.

Look for your birth period below and find the general indications for the week. Note that these observations are made according to the Zodiacal Signs and do not exactly coincide with the Calendar Month. For example, January covers December 21-January 19.

MONDAY, MARCH 27:

FOR MOST OF US: Emotionally a day for caution. Don't attempt anything but straightforward jobs. Be particularly careful to keep clear of doubtful financial deals. FOR LUCK TODAY WEAR OR USE: Navy blue, 8, Jade.

BIRTHDAY FORECAST:

All's well this year provided you restrain your Sun-Arian love of adventure and experiment. If you want to be successful and happy in 1950-51, you must be more cautious than is your wont. It won't pay to take risks this year.

So, however uncongenial your job or environment may be, make no changes just now. Towards the end of the year you should gain substantially through work put in early in 1950. You should find, too, that you end the 12 months in the good graces of older and more influential people.

Older people will be outstanding in your life throughout the year. Upon their goodwill depends promotion or business success. Also, one of them would probably help you to establish yourself more comfortably than before.

It is a good year for settling down, for founding a family, for buying a house. However, intriguing offers of travel may be, better not take them in 1950. If you go abroad this year you are sure to regret the move.

You should realise to the full the value of family connections during the coming 12 months. Also, old friends reappear and some link-up that dates from seven or eight years ago becomes worthwhile. If you make new friends of striking personality but who do not meet with family approval, it would be wiser not to strengthen the association this year.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28:

FOR MOST OF US: Lively but stimulating atmosphere likely to prevail throughout the day. Particularly good for travel and sport. FOR LUCK TODAY WEAR OR USE: Reddish yellow, 9, Bloodstone.

BIRTHDAY FORECAST:

Although this may not be an outstanding year for your existence, yet it is likely to be one of the brightest and pleasantest you have had for some time. It is not likely that you would make dramatic changes in 1950-51, but you will live at a keener pace, be on the top of your form throughout the year.

It is not probable that you would make far-reaching reshuffles but it would pay to reorganise your business and your way of living this year. Probably new acquaintances that you make round about June or August will help you to reorientate your ideas. New interests taken up about the same time will also lead you into fresh activities and probably a new way of living.

Financially all's well though you are not likely to make spe-

pers and surprising developments in your immediate circle are likely to prove stimulating and fortunate.

THURSDAY, MARCH 30:

FOR MOST OF US: Keep clear of financial deals or speculation if possible. A good day for routine or personal affairs but unsuitable for business. FOR LUCK TODAY WEAR OR USE: Pastel shades, 6, Turquoise.

BIRTHDAY FORECAST:

Your best policy throughout the coming 12 months would be to make as few changes as possible. Unless reshuffles are thrust upon you, be content with things as they are. It is not likely, by the way, that you would be jolted roughly out of your present environment or made to embark upon undesirable schemes.

So carry on as you have done in the preceding 12 months and aim at a little more economy than usual. If you spend recklessly early in the year, the chances are that there would be more difficulties towards Christmas. Incidentally, it is not likely that speculation would enable you to recoup your losses.

If in trade, expect lower sales than usual this year and plan accordingly. You are not likely to suffer any serious setbacks, but unless you are far-sighted you may find that expenses outrun income. If in a profession, it will be wise to stay put during this year and to plan transfer or hope for promotion in 1951.

It should be a happy year provided you are not too ambitious socially. It will be as well to remember that the people who are "lucky" in you in 1950 are not those with money or influence. You will meet with more kindness and get more help from comparatively hard-up friends.

Better adopt a realistic attitude towards personal problems in 1950-51. There is some likelihood that women friends and relatives may make heavy claims on your pocket and that you will allow sentiment to over-ride judgment. Better be hard-hearted and keep alive to your own interests this year.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31:

FOR MOST OF US: Don't be in a hurry to make important decisions. Be sure you have the right advice before you move. Crisis likely to arise in some long drawn-out undertaking. FOR LUCK TODAY WEAR OR USE: Leaf green, 4, Emerald.

BIRTHDAY FORECAST:

Curiously conflicting influences may make this an outstanding but somewhat difficult year. It looks as though before you reach your next birthday you will have to make some choice between entirely new schemes and interests and existing friends or the family.

However inviting new adventures may seem, it will not be easy to break away from your present job or environment. Your best policy would probably be to wait as long as possible before you make a move. Some time between September and Christmas your problems may solve themselves.

Although income should be entirely satisfactory you may find that old debts are a problem this year. Alternatively, you have to make provision for a much older relative or dependent. Such claims on your pocket are not likely to be paid until after your next birthday.

Some problem connected with houses or property may keep you bothered during part of the year. Incidentally, it is a good year for attempting to realise on assets of this kind. Better hang on to house or any land that you may own for another year or two.

Family interests are likely to dominate your personal as well as your business life. But in spite of these restrictions, an important new link-up will probably materialise this year. Someone of outstanding and unusual personality will help you to re-adjust your ideas and eventually to break away from irritating conditions.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1:

FOR MOST OF US: Get anything that matters completed by mid-day. Late afternoon and evening may prove a stormy period. Be careful if travelling. FOR LUCK TODAY WEAR OR USE: Pale yellow, 5, Topaz.

BIRTHDAY FORECAST:

Although this may be a year of ups and downs it is likely to prove a stimulating period in your life. You may not get through the 12 months without certain clashes or misadventures, but you will gain in experience, make some valuable and helpful link-ups.

The stormiest period of the year will probably be that round about September and October. Better not make important changes during those months. Yet certain upheavals are necessary before you see your way clear to starting on some scheme that has appealed to you for a long time.

Probably the initial steps towards successful new ventures would be taken about August and completed towards Christmas. Early 1951 will probably see you launched on something that promises well for the future. Incidentally, your income seems to keep up a good level throughout the year.

Travel will probably be necessary though some of your journeys may be aimless. If much on the move this year, be careful to look after your health and be wary about small mishaps. It would not be wise to settle abroad in 1950.

Your personal life may be unsettled but it is likely to be happy nevertheless. A short-lived romance may end in disillusionment but new friendships prove more stable and bring considerable happiness. One important link-up may be made with an older and influential person round about August.



WHITEAWAYS

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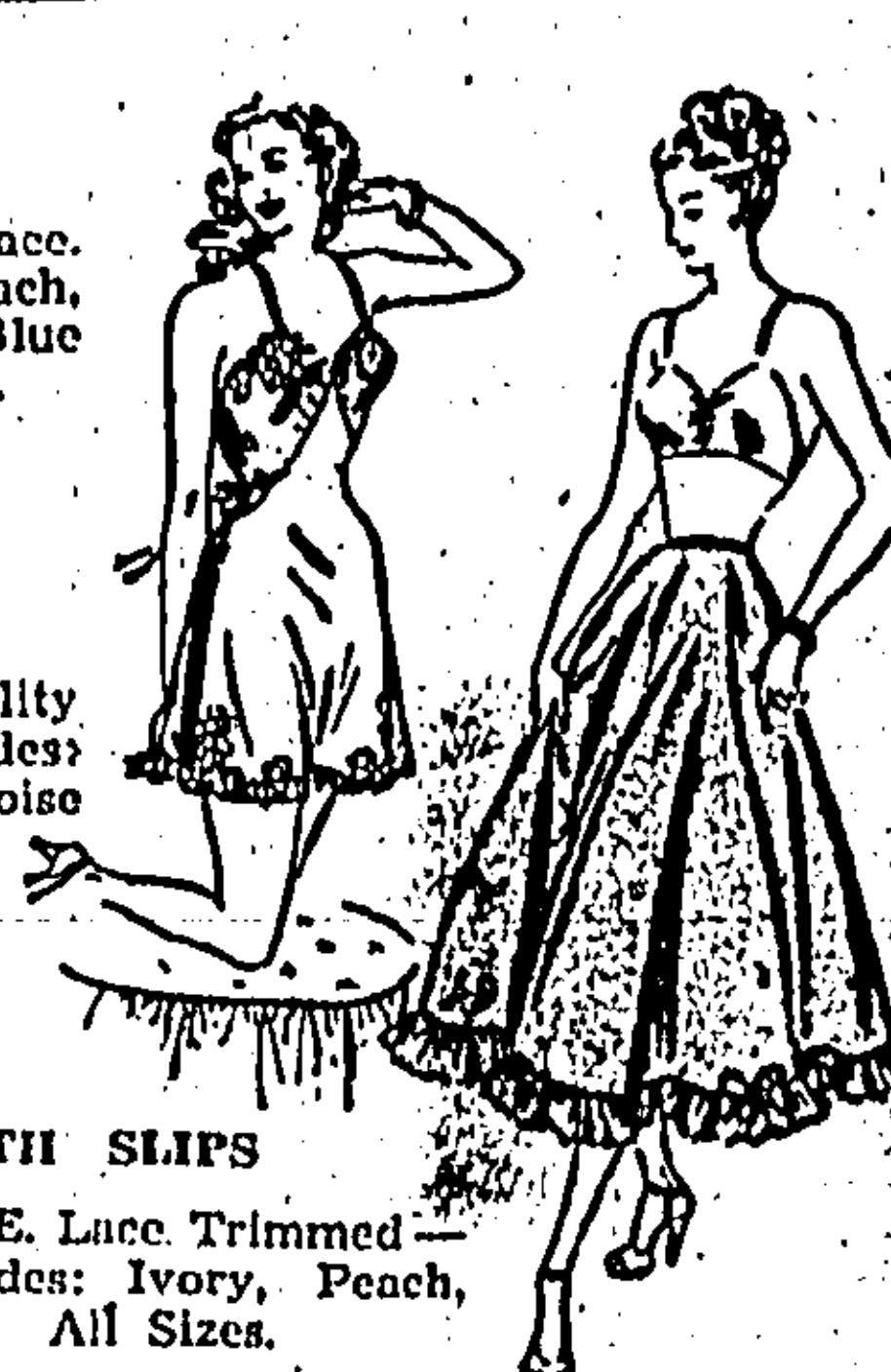
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CELANESE HALF SLIPS
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FULL-LENGTH SLIPS
In Locknit CELANESE. Lace Trimmed—Brasserie Tops. Shades: Ivory, Peach, Turquoise and Black. All Sizes.
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NEW SEE THE NEW VOILE CELANESE UNDIES. AVAILABLE IN PRETTY FLORAL BIKIES IN FRENCH KNICKS
The Famous and SPOT DESIGNS. Lace Trimmed. Popular. Colours ALL SIZES AND Ivory, Peach, Turquoise and Black.
Prices: ON SALE From \$3.50 Pair GROUND FLOOR. \$7.00 Pair

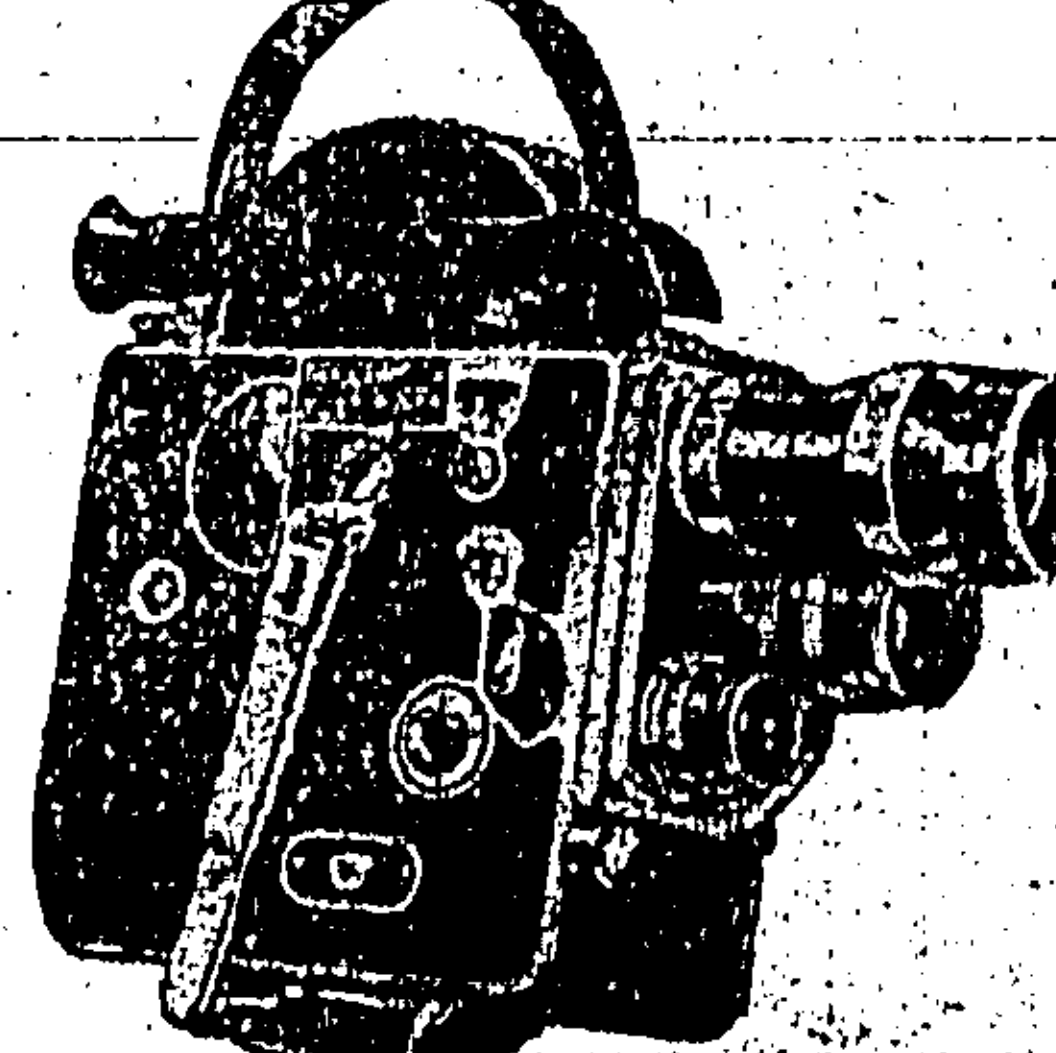
WHITEAWAY, LAIDLAW & CO., LTD.





Introduce The New Bolex

EYE-LEVEL FOCUS!



NEW! BOLEX EYE-LEVEL FOCUS!
All new Bolex 16mm and 8mm cameras now include this fine precision instrument that gives you critical visual focus through the lens, from behind the camera.

Automatic Threading: No need to use expensive magazine-loaded film. Bolex automatic threading eliminates all danger of imperfect threading.

Turret Head for Three Lenses: Accommodates standard "A" or "C" type lenses.

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Frame Counter: Accurate frame counter add or subtract automatically.

CRANK-PAULIUM LENSES: are superior throughout the world for their consistent high quality. Available for Bolex 16, 8, 1/2, 1/4 and 1/8 inch. (Note: The Bolex 1/4, 1/8 and 1/8 inch are made for the 16mm film.)

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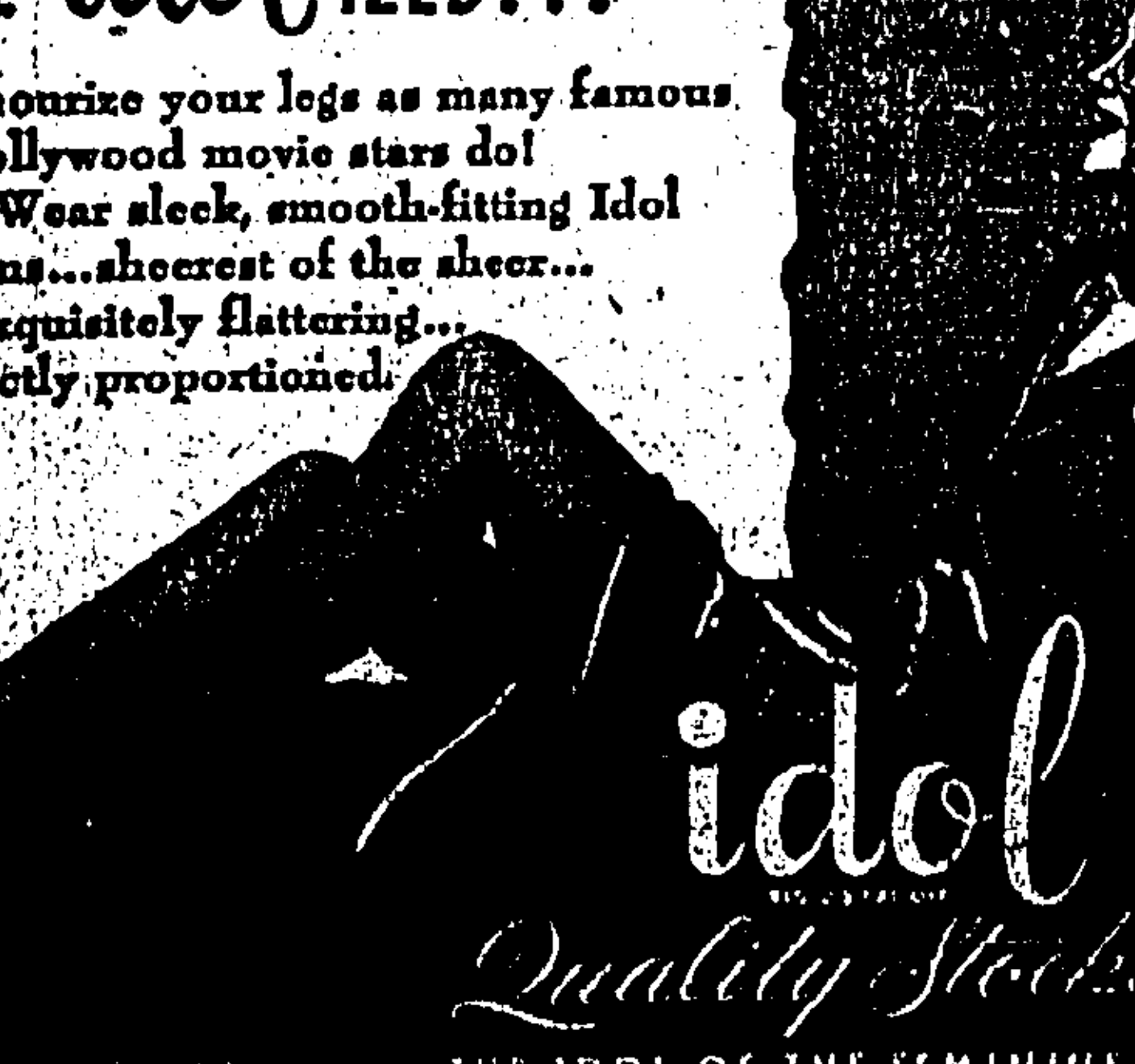
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Check—and Fill Up with NEW Mobiloil for **TRIPLE-ACTION** Performance!

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High V.I. Index—means high resistance to change in heavy motor oils of heat and acid.

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At 11.30 A.M. Only
Greta Garbo - Robert Taylor
In M-G-M'S
"CAMILLE"
At Reduced Prices!

ALHAMBRA
At 12 Noon Only
MGM - WB - RKO
**TECHNICOLOR
CARTOON**
At Reduced Prices!

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A Great Young Love Story of Our Time!

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LOVE STORY**

JAMES STEWART JUNE ALLYSON

The Stratton Story

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TOMORROW
At the
ALHAMBRA
M-G-M presents
"FORCE OF EVIL"
John Garfield • Marie Windsor

NEXT
CHANGE
Queens
NEXT
CHANGE

FILMED WITH THE TERRIFYING REALISM OF FACT!

CANON CITY

INTRODUCING SCOTT BRADY
with JEFF COLE, JIMMY HANLEY, STANLEY CLEMENTS
CHARLES RUSSELL, DONALD KELLEY, RALPH HARRIS, PAIGE
Produced by ROBERT T. RAYNE Directed by CRANE WILSON

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BERGMAN
ROBERT MONTGOMERY

Love Was the Best
That the World Ever
Knew

SPECIAL MORNING SHOW TODAY at 12.30
AT REDUCED ADMISSION PRICES
"A COMPLETE NEW PROGRAMME
OF CARTOONS"

20th Century-Fox Film

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**TRAPPED
ON A
TRAIN OF
TERROR!**

Marie OBERON-RYAN
Charles Paul KORVIN-LUKAS

Berlin Express

Produced by ROBERT HARRIS
Directed by ROBERT HARRIS

TODAY SPECIAL MORNING
SHOW AT 12 NOON
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**"MIGHTY MOUSE
COLOR CARTOONS
ETC"**
Bring The Children!
Bring Your Friends!

NEXT CHANGE
AT THE
**KING'S
THEATRE**

JOHN FONTAINE
BURT LANCASTER

**KISS THE BLOOD
OFF MY HANDS**

Produced by ROBERT NEWTON

Produced by ROBERT NEWTON
Adapted by DON MERRILL and Walter Newman
Additional Dialogues by Hugh Gray
From the novel by Gerald Butler
Screenplay by ROBERT HARRIS
Directed by ROBERT HARRIS
A PICTURE BY ROBERT HARRIS
A PICTURE BY ROBERT HARRIS

DEATH OF FOREMOST LABOUR INTELLECTUAL

London, March 24.

Harold Laski, the Socialist intellectual, died in hospital here tonight. Professor Laski was 56. He was a lecturer on Political Science at the London School of Economics. He once described himself as a member of that dangerous species whose professional business is criticism and thought.

Author of books on political science, he had been a University teacher since the left college 31 years ago and a leading intellectual of the Labour Party, of whose Executive he was Chairman from 1946 to 1948.

One of England's most brilliant political scholars, Harold Joseph Laski was chairman of the Labour Party when it rode into power in the summer of 1945 to inaugurate what he called "the era of the common man" in Britain.

Then, satisfied to see his party on its feet, this practicing idealist welcomed a chance to transfer some of his political responsibilities to others so that he could devote more time to writing and teaching. He already had published a score of books and written many articles on biography, political thought, liberalism, law and parliamentary government, and lectured at universities in England and America.

Following his rejection for army service during World War I, because of a weak heart, Mr. Laski became a lecturer in history at McGill University, Montreal, where he remained for two years. Subsequently he lectured at Harvard, Yale and Amherst, and at Cambridge University, England, and Trinity College, Dublin.

He became connected with the London School of Economics in 1920 and six years later began his long service as professor of political science at London University. Perhaps his greatest contribution to the Labour Party was his teaching at London University where he indoctrinated a whole generation of students in the philosophy of Socialism.

Chance for 'Little Man'

His book, "Where Do We Go From Here," which appeared in 1940, was a widely-read exposition of the views of Liberals and Socialists. Then he spent several years writing a monumental analysis of American civilisation. Mr. Laski saw in the Labour Party's victory in the 1945 elections "the arrival of the people in power."

"We are now prepared to give the little man—within the framework of the British constitution—all the progressive changes that he requires," he said.

It wasn't long before the first objective in the party's programme of nationalisation was accomplished—bringing the 250-year-old Bank of England under public ownership. Party members described this as "a great charter of freedom for the English people."

The private bank had paid 12 per cent dividends annually from 1923. After it came under public ownership in 1946, shareholders were compensated with Government stocks bearing three per cent interest.

"You can't plan economically without the control of the central bank," Mr. Laski said in explanation of the programme. "A government which is not responsible for the operation of credit is not master of its own house."

Planned Economy

With a smile, he added: "England was conquered twice in its history—once by William the Norman, in 1066, and again by Montagu the Norman, in 1931." The latter reference was to the crisis in which the previous British Labour Government fell when Montagu Norman was Governor of the Bank of England.

"The devil is not as red as he is painted," Laski once commented about himself, "and his evil-minded socialism is nothing more than the logical development of Jeffersonian democracy in the 20th century."

In the winter of 1945 Mr. Laski visited the United States and addressed a meeting held in New York to discuss the problem of the atomic bomb. At that time he urged an end to existing sovereignty among the nations.

He said that the proper use of atomic energy meant planned internationalism, economic, social and political, and added:

"We have come to the boundaries of the final dividing line between Liberalism and Socialism. There is no middle way. Free enterprise and market economy mean war; Socialism and planned economy mean peace. All attempts to find a compromise are a Satanic illusion. We must plan our civilisation or we must perish."

Hotel Picketed

Only when sovereignty was eliminated would war and politics be abolished, he contended. He charged that no nation was fit to be trusted with the development of atomic energy. (Continued On Page 8)

COMING TO THE

ROXY

BROADWAY

IT'S THE
**CHIEF
LEADER
OF THE YEAR!!!**

Moretta Young

Van Johnson

MOTHER

FRESHMAN

HEIRESS

HEIRESS

Flying saucer spotted in North Italy

Rome, March 24.
Several people saw a flying saucer speeding across the moonlit sky on Thursday night at Turin, in Northern Italy, Press dispatches reported today.

The report was carried by the Italian News Agency UNISA, and said that the strange craft was travelling at an altitude of about 6,000 feet, and leaving a trail of gas in its wake.—Associated Press.

Rediffusion

a.m.
7.00—Up with sun.
8.00—News & Weather Forecast.
8.15—Organist.
8.30—Morning Music.
8.45—Sunday Variety.
9.00—"Explosion Hour: Hong Kong".
9.15—Festival of Wales.
9.30—Church Service Light Music Organ Melodies.
p.m.
12.00—"Sur Les Bords de la Seine".
12.30—Lunch Time Music.
1.15—News and Weather Report.
1.30—Popular Concert.
2.00—Afternoon Musicale.
4.00—Curtain Calls.
4.30—Ten Time Times.
4.45—Music Hall Varieties.
5.00—March Song.
5.05—Pops Favourites.
5.30—Just For You.
5.45—A special feature for the Children.
6.00—BBC News.
7.00—Local News.
7.15—"The Gracie Fields' Show".
7.45—Listen to Liberty.
8.00—Songs of All Nations.
8.15—Rummy Kays' Orchestra.
8.30—Wings of Darkness.
8.45—Songs from the Blues.
9.00—BBC News.
9.15—Local News.
9.45—Chorus for Today.
10.00—"London Playhouse".
10.00—Organ Recitals.
10.15—Dramatic Piano Concerto No. 2 in B Flat.
11.15—A Date With Dreamland.
12.00—Close Down.

MAJESTIC

AIR CONDITIONED
TODAY
SPECIAL TIMES:
AT 2.00, 4.45, 7.15 & 9.45 P.M.

JOAN OF ARC
INGRID BERGMAN
A VICTOR FLEMING PRODUCTION
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
CAST BY PRODUCERS
Produced by WALTER WANGER
Directed by VICTOR FLEMING
(Presented by RKO PICTURES)
(Released by RKO PICTURES)

JOAN OF ARC
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Produced by WALTER WANGER
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(Presented by RKO PICTURES)
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TODAY
EXTRA SHOW
AT 12.00 NOON
Johnny WEILLSMULLER
in
"TARZAN TRIUMPHS"
OPENS TOMORROW
William ELLIOTT in
"THE LAST BANDIT"
IN TECHNICOLOR

5 SHOWS
TODAY
AT 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
APPEARING ON THE SCREEN FOR THE FIRST
TIME FROM THE WORLD FAMOUS STAGE PLAY
"THE WET PAINT"
DIALOGUE IN MANDARIN
SOUNDING FROM THE HUNG HALL • FONG MING

RADIO

This is Radio Hong Kong broadcasting on a frequency of 843 kilocycles per second and on 9.62 megacycles per second in the 31 metre band.

8.00
10.00—"Hong Kong Calling"—Programme Summary.
10.05—Saturday Sports Roundup—Given by Bill Phillips (Studio).
10.05—Louis Levy and His Orchestra Play Old Film Favourites.
10.20—Relay of the Service from H.M. Dockyard Church—Conducted by Mr. Rev. T. V. Guver, H. N. (HONG KONG VOLUNTARY).
11.15—London Studio Melodies—London Light Orchestra. Conducted by Michael Krell. (HONG KONG).
11.45—Popular Rodgers-Hart Melodies.
12.00—Sports Time by Bill Phillips (Studio).
p.m.
12.00—"Hong Kong Calling"—Programme Summary.
12.30—Memories of Paul Lincke.
12.45—Vaughan Monroe (Vocal) and his Orchestra in a Variety Programme.
1.15—News, Weather Report and Announcements.
1.25—Interlude.
1.30—Morning Concert.
2.00—"Take it from Here"—With Joy Nichols, Dick Bentley and Jimmy Edwards. (HONG KONG).
2.20—"Jazz Half Hour"—(Studio).
2.45—World News (London Relay).
3.10—Hospital Requests—Presented by "Amber" (Studio).
4.10—Short Story—"The Ferry"—By H. E. Bates. Read by John Loveless (Studio).
4.30—"Film Favourites".
5.00—"Home Requests"—Presented by Jackie Palmer (Studio).
6.00—"Hong Kong Calling"—Programme Summary.
6.05—A Short Vocal Recital by Tino Rossi (Tenor).
6.15—Weekly News Letter. (London Relay).
6.20—Services Even-Song—Conducted by the Rev. Dennis Harvey B.N. (Studio).
7.00—World News and News Analysis (London Relay).
7.15—"Looking Ahead"—A Review of the Week's Programmes (Studio).
7.30—"Dinner Music".
8.00—"From the Editorials" (London Relay).
8.10—An appeal for the Family Welfare Society by J.D. Clague (Studio).
8.15—"Time for Music"—BBC Variety Scottish Orchestra. Conducted by Kenelm. Stephen. with Alfie McHugh. (HONG KONG).
8.45—Symphony Concert—Weber's Concertino for Clarinet and Orchestra Op. 26. Reinald Kell. (Clarinet) and Symphony Orchestra. Conducted by Walter Goehr. Dohnanyi's Variations on a Nursery Theme for Piano and Orch. Cyril Smith (Piano) and the Liverpool Philharmonic Orch. Conducted by Sir Malcolm Sargent. Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4 in F Minor, Op. 36. Sergei Koussevitzky—Conducting the Boston Symphony Orchestra.
10.00—Radio News Rel. (London Relay).
10.15—Weather Report.
10.45—A Talk in the Series "English Social History" No. 1: The Age of Chaucer. 14th Century. by G.H. Eggleston (Studio).
10.50—The Don Cosack Choir.
10.45—J.H. Bquire Celeste Octet.
11.00—Weather Report, World News and Radio News from Britain. (London Relay Recorded).
11.15—Enlightenment. (HONG KONG).
11.30—Close Down.
God Save the King.

STAR

Phone 58335
17 Hankow Road, Kowloon.
March 26th & 27th
2.30, 5.10, 7.20 & 9.30 p.m.

JOAN OF ARC
INGRID BERGMAN
A VICTOR FLEMING PRODUCTION
COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR
CAST BY PRODUCERS
Produced by WALTER WANGER
Directed by VICTOR FLEMING
(Presented by RKO PICTURES)
(Released by RKO PICTURES)

RAMROD
AT 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
March 28th
Rita Hayworth
Larry Parks
in
"DOWN TO EARTH"
In Technicolor

5 SHOWS
TODAY
AT 12.30, 2.30, 4.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.
APPEARING ON THE SCREEN FOR THE FIRST
TIME FROM THE WORLD FAMOUS STAGE PLAY
"THE WET PAINT"
DIALOGUE IN MANDARIN
SOUNDING FROM THE HUNG HALL • FONG MING

ROXY COMMENCING TODAY

LOIS BUTLER
Mickey
in Cinemascope!
with
BILL GOODWIN • IRENE HERVEY
JOHN SUTTON
ROSE HOBART • HATTIE McDaniel
SKIPPER HOOPER
Produced by ABBEY SCIENCE
Directed by RALPH MURPHY
CAST BY PRODUCERS
Produced by ABBEY SCIENCE
Directed by RALPH MURPHY
CAST BY PRODUCERS

EXTRA PERFORMANCE AT 11.30 A.M.
Republic Pictures Presents
EDGAR RICE BURROUGHS'
"JUNGLE GIRL"
FINAL CHAPTERS AT REDUCED PRICES

LEE KINGS

5 SHOWS AT 11.30 A.M. 5 SHOWS AT 11.30 A.M.
2.30, 5.15, 7.20 2.30, 5.15, 7.20
& 9.20 P.M. & 9.30 P.M.

5 SHOWS TODAY

THIS YEAR'S ADVENTURE OF ADVENTURES
THIS YEAR'S SMASH OF SMASHES!
WARNER BROS. NEW
ADVENTURES OF
JOHN JUAN
ERROL FLYNN
TECHNICOLOR
VIVECA LINDBORS
ROBERT DOUGLAS VINCENT SHERMAN JERRY WALD
WILLIAM HALE • ROSEMARY BRENT • ANN RUTHERFORD

Liberty

4 SHOWS
TODAY
SPECIAL TIMES: at 2.30, 5.15, 7.30 & 9.45 p.m.

It's his Most Romantic role!
GARY COOPER
CECIL B. DE MILLE'S
"The Story of Dr. Wassell"
LARRY PARKS
TODAY MORNING SHOW
AT 12.30 P.M. AT REDUCED PRICES!
"MIGHTY MOUSE" CARTOON
PROGRAMME

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and arrange for one of their standard hampers to be despatched regularly from Australia to your people at home.

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"WEEKLY CHINA MAIL"

CONTAINING ALL THE LOCAL NEWS
OF THE WEEK FROM THE
"CHINA MAIL" & "SUNDAY HERALD"

Price 50 Cents**ON SALE EVERY THURSDAY.****Sealing the entente**

President Vincent Auriol of France and Mme. Auriol, whose State visit to London concluded with the greatest gala performance Covent Garden has staged for many a year, had a full and thrilling list of engagements.

Its features were a ceremonial drive from Buckingham Palace to the bomb-scarred Guildhall, a visit to the County Hall, where the President saw the plans for the Festival of Britain, a brilliant academy reception to which friends of France all over the country came, and finally the most brilliant dinner for years at the French Embassy.

In the long history of London City hospitality, no head of State, no victorious commander, or national hero ever received a more wonderful reception than the French visitors. Tens of thousands of people along the route cheered the State carriage under the flags and bunting in the most glorious spring sunshine of the year.

They had a glittering escort of Household Cavalry in scarlet tunics, shining armour and helmets. There is nothing quite like a Guildhall function on such a State occasion. Sir Frederick Rowland the Lord Mayor of London, in his gold robes of State, rose to the full requirement of the occasion. President Auriol had a pleasant surprise for him. After he had received the address of welcome couched in an oak casket he produced a red casket, and kissing the Lord Mayor on both cheeks invested him as a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honour.

The President summed up the sentiment of those who have participated in all these wonderful functions when he said that the friendship of our two nations is more alive than ever.

Return Visit

According to authoritative French quarters a formal invitation to the King and Queen to make a State visit to France will be sent by President Auriol soon. The President has already informally suggested to their Majesties how delighted the French people would be at an opportunity to reciprocate London's hospitality to himself and his wife. As a matter of "protocol", however, some weeks must first elapse after Mr. Auriol's arrival in Paris before a formal invitation is dispatched.

In addition, it is understood that the King feels it would be difficult to accept an invitation to the French capital before the date had been fixed for the projected Royal visit to Australia, though there would be no obstacle to their Majesties going to Paris before the Dominion tour, which is not expected to take place until 1952.

It is believed that the earliest date for a Royal visit to France would be in the autumn, as the

King and Queen have a heavy programme prepared for the intervening months.

"Big three" talks

While all the limelight was focused on M. Auriol, the French President, M. Schuman, the French Foreign Minister, who accompanied him, was having conferences with leading members of the Government and the Opposition.

With Mr. Bevin, Foreign Secretary, he reviewed many pressing problems which affect Britain almost as much as France. Nothing has shaken France more since the war than the German reaction to the Saar agreements and the West German Government's threat, by way of reprisal, to ignore the Council of Europe.

Mr. Bevin reassured Mr. Schuman of Britain's determination to support the agreements and to deal firmly with any signs of re-surgent nationalism in Western Germany. The French Foreign Minister also underlined the urgency of a British gesture in Indo-China, where the French troops are faced with the possibility of stiffening Communist resistance, encouraged and nourished by materials and men from Chinese Communist sources.

Mr. Bevin promised to bring before the Cabinet, M. Schuman's suggestion that a meeting of "Big Three"—the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France and the United States—should be held as soon as possible. By that time the report should be available of Dr. Jessup, American Ambassador-at-large, on the Far East.

Far East Focus

Dr. Philip Jessup, is expected to visit London during the next few weeks for important talks with Mr. Bevin and other British ministers.

He has been on tour of the Far East, gathering a first-hand insight into the consequences of the Red Chinese victory in order to equip himself for advising on a new American policy in that vital region.

The timing of his call here, after the French President's visit and before the forthcoming "Big Three" Foreign Ministers' Conference will be of special value to Mr. Dean Acheson, the U.S. Secretary of State, who can thus obtain from the roving envoy not only a picture of conditions and trends in the Far East but also a personal account of the Anglo-French political discussions now in progress in London.

One crucial subject that Dr. Jessup may discuss in London is the Kashmir dispute, between India and Pakistan, and many

people here and at UN would like to see him go there, as official mediator.

The new house

New members display an almost proprietorial interest in the House of Commons—a vast labyrinth of rooms and corridors which some of them have never before visited.

Particular interest is directed to the new House of Commons, which happily promises to be ready for habitation in the coming autumn. The cafeteria, a direct product of the war, comes in for a good deal of unfriendly criticism as tending to lower the prestige of the House.

Women members, in particular, manifest a keen interest in all the arrangements of the kitchen committee, and I shall not be surprised if they agitate later for a large representation of their own sex on this rather heterogeneous muster of amateur caterers.

Mr. Churchill

Mr. Churchill will spend more time in the House of Commons during this Parliament than he did during the last, and his work on his war history may be somewhat delayed. He has, however, no intention of abandoning that great literary task.

In these days, when every division will be critical and when the Government and the Conservative Opposition are fundamentally divided on nationalisation and other issues, the Opposition leader will be at hand to hit the Government often and hard, and to inspire his followers.

The speech with which Mr. Churchill opened the debate on the King's address displayed his physical vigour and mental alertness. It took an hour, but his voice was strong and his vigour undiminished to the close.

He dealt with many subjects and to each gave pungency and point with racy language and facile, appropriate humour.

Mr. Herbert Morrison was almost as good. He revelled in his duty of countering and criticising Mr. Churchill. He managed to make his back-benchers forget their disappointments and shout as triumphantly as though they had a great effective majority.

February a bad choice

An indication of the growing feeling that all is not well behind the scenes in Labour Party circles as a result of the election setback is provided by the comment of a Socialist trade union stalwart.

He is Mr. William McAdam, former MP for Salford North and

a former member of the executive of the National Union of Railwaymen. In the current edition of their official journal, he criticises the decision to have gone to the country in February. Nor does he mince his words.

"I think that those who plumped for February, instead of after the introduction of the 1950 Budget, have landed our movement in the stickiest possible position, it has ever been in, and because of that they ought to be called to account," he says.

On the prospect of an election in the near future he observes: "Financially, neither the party nor the trade unions can gather sufficient funds to wage an effective election campaign for another three years at least."

Whether, an out-of-date electoral register—another million voters might have been on the March list—and propaganda that the Government was afraid of a financial crisis are Mr. McAdam's grounds for condemning the choice of February as election date.

Colonial policy

Mr. James Griffiths, the new Colonial Secretary, faces many urgent problems. The lead among them is the question of future policy towards British territory in Africa.

The Colonial Governors in Africa are, in fact, on the warpath but they have been holding their hands until the election was over. Several of them have been in correspondence, privately, on the subject of the Socialist Government's policy for rapid advancement of backward peoples towards a status of responsible government. It is now likely that a proposal will be forwarded to Whitehall asking for a London conference, so that the experts from the spot can acquaint the Government with their difficulties.

If the Governors come to London there will be quite an African gathering there. The Prime Minister of the self-governing Colony of Southern Rhodesia is also planning a visit. So is Roy Welensky, leader of the "unofficial members" of the Northern Rhodesia Legislative Council.

Those defence millions

The present arrangement is that Sir Stafford Cripps will introduce the Budget on Tuesday, April 18. Sir Stafford's 1949 Budget caused great discontent in many directions. The expectation is that his next will be no more popular. Though the Conservatives made a strong point of taxation relief, they are unlikely to defeat the Government on that issue. They may, indeed, but they will not challenge a decisive division, because to do so would dislocate the national finances.

But what the Government have to fear is that their own supporters many of whom object to an expenditure of nearly £800 million on defence, may press their point to the division lobby. Even a relatively small defection by back-benchers would, unless the Opposition came to the rescue, bring the Government down.

Disconcerting

Meanwhile, it cannot be disconcerting to the Chancellor to have Mr. John Kenney, head of the London Maritime Aid Mission, hinting to the U.S. Foreign Affairs Committee that further devaluation of the pound may be necessary.

When, reluctantly, Sir Stafford was driven to accept the inevitability of the devaluation, there was widespread surprise at the drastic extent of that process. That policy was adopted, however, to ensure that no further reduction would be needed. Yet already we have an American expert like Mr. Kenney declaring that the British economy hangs in delicate balance.

It is fairly certain that Sir Stafford Cripps will repudiate any such possibility as Mr. Kenney suggests, the more so since such suggestions themselves tend to destroy confidence and precipitate what they infer. The situation emphasises the need for realistic budgeting and firm retrenchment.

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What the CHINESE PRESS is saying**Budget discussion**

WAH KIU YAT PO: Personal salaries and annuities tax should not be increased. The current cost of living is already too high to warrant any further taxation. Any increase in taxation would only add to the financial burdens of the people and would affect their livelihood adversely.

Hong Kong may appear on the surface to be prosperous, with its teeming 2,000,000 people. But in fact merchants are viewing the future with anxiety. Goods are continuing to pile up in godowns, resulting in an acute shortage of storage space.

There is also the steadily increasing prices of daily necessities. Under these circumstances, the proposal to increase taxation is not advisable.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce has made four reasonable suggestions for raising the necessary funds that are needed to balance the budget. For instance, their suggestion that taxes on entertainment, luxury goods, tobacco, liquor and motor cars should be increased is a good proposal.

Those who patronise places of entertainment and indulge in luxury should be able to shoulder increased taxation indirectly.

SING TAO JIH PAO: The question of increased taxation is now under debate. It is being widely discussed and certain organisations have called special meetings to study Government's proposals.

Obviously, taxation for the purposes of providing funds for protecting the welfare of the population and for security can-

not be avoided. The main argument is the proper method to adopt to obtain the necessary funds without threatening the livelihood of the people.

Business conditions in the Colony today have shown no improvement over last year's. Huge profits last year were confined to theatres, cabarets, restaurants, and speculative brokers and bankers. These profits were more a result of the influx of people into the Colony rather than to a bona fide business boom.

The two Chinese Chambers of Commerce have suggested increased indirect taxation rather than increased direct taxation.

The suggestion should be taken up and carefully studied by Government. The present high cost of living makes it unwise to increase the salaries and annuities tax.

KUNG SHEUNG MAN PO: In our opinion any proposal to increase taxation should be left to the Municipal Council to take up when it is formed.

As members of the Municipal Council would be elected by the people, they would be in a better position to appraise the conditions of the people and would then be in a position to decide whether or not to increase taxation. It would mean too big a burden for the people to shoulder.

In fact, the administrative machinery for setting up the Council could be established this year. It is suggested that members of the Legislative Council put in a motion to shelve the proposal for increasing taxation until the Municipal Council is formed.

WEN WEE PAO: The main budget deficit is due to the fact that the Government is spending more than it receives. It is suggested that the Government should consider ways to increase revenue.

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World city his atom age dream

By Ritchie McEwen

Addressing a press conference held in the luxurious reception rooms of Vienna's exclusive Jockey Club in the palace of a former Habsburg noble, a mild-mannered, spare, middle-aged Austrian Professor of languages unfolded his plan for a World State to promote international culture and learning.

In the new State, all the 85 Nations of the world would have their own plots based on national population, and each would set up its own university and housing accommodation. Professor Lukas hopes that scientists and students from every corner of the world will be able to work together in peace and harmony for the well-being of the world in this "no man's land" in the heart of Europe.

For the fair-haired Professor has already decided on the site for Universitas, as the new State is to be called. The picturesque little valley of Zolfield, in the wooded district of Carinthia, a few miles from Klagenfurt.

Ten miles in length, and covering an area of about 60 square miles, the valley is protected by the towering ranges of the Austrian Alps, with the little Glan river twisting along its entire length.

Professor Lukas believes that the Austrian Government would be prepared to renounce all jurisdiction and territorial rights over the sleepy valley if the scheme shows prospects of becoming a reality, and is sponsored by an international body such as UNESCO.

One of Austria's leading architects has already prepared ambitious plans for the central buildings of the world's 85th State.

A world city

In the centre of the valley, he plans to build a World City, about the size of the old inner City of London, with a gigantic university as the dominating feature. The university's capacity would be 200,000 students, and the building complex would stretch over two miles along the banks of the Glan river.

The main lecture hall is designed to hold 100,000 students, and there will be a large number of museums, libraries, and research laboratories on a world-wide scale.

Other buildings planned for the World City include government offices, a mainline railway

station, an aerodrome, a world theatre, as well as international hotels, hospitals and clinics.

Two miles outside the city, a large international religious reserve would be set up round the present humble village church, and it is planned to build a World Cathedral embracing all faiths!

The total population of Universitas would be limited to 2,000,000 and two-thirds of the inhabitants must be students.

Forty-three-year-old Professor Lukas resigned his position as assistant to Austria's Secretary of State Ferdinand Graf to launch his bid for a World State, fearing that if he kept his job, world opinion might think the whole conception a deeply laid political plot.

Of humble parents

Born of humble parents in the little Styrian village of Soltau, an important Austrian railway junction, Lukas used to gaze at the scores of trains from all parts of Europe which were shunted about in the railway sidings on the outskirts of his home village.

Goods trucks from Italy, Austria, Germany, France, Poland and all other European countries were detached from their "national" trains, and make up into "mixed" international trains earmarked for destinations all over the Continent.

A country lad in his teens, the seed of the idea of a world "junction" for culture and learning was already planted in his mind. If they can do that with goods trucks and trains, why not with Nations he thought.

At 15 he ran away from home to see the world, stowing away on a goods train bound for Italy. Here he spent three years in study, and then travelled to France, to take his degree at the famous Sorbonne University in Paris. His studies completed, he returned to his homeland, and settled down to teach languages.

But his dream of a world State never left him, and with the dawn of the Atomic Age, Professor Lukas is convinced that the time has come for Universitas, the State of States.

DOCKERS DEFY MENZIES THREAT

Sydney, March 24.

Communist-led Brisbane waterside workers remained on strike today, defying the Prime Minister, Robert Menzies, threat to gaoil them under the Crimes Act.

Mr. Menzies, leader of Australia's recently elected Conservative Government, announced in Parliament on Thursday that he is invoking the Act to deal with the persistent Communist strikes on the Brisbane waterfront.

At a meeting this morning waterside men who are on strike because of the suspension of three officials, again refused Government orders to return to work.

Under the Crimes Act, which was first passed in 1914 but has lain idle on the statute books, he may be liable to a year's gaol, or deportation if they are of natives of Australia.—United Press.

Mass flight of Czech refugees

Frankfurt, March 24.
The United States Air Force announced that three unannounced, unauthorized Czech planes landed this morning at Erding air base near Munich.

Air Force authorities at Wiesbaden headquarters said that nothing further was known of the matter immediately.

Czech sources understood that 83 persons were aboard the planes.

A terse Air Force announcement said the planes landed at different intervals.—United Press.

RUSSIAN LIVESTOCK DRIVE

Moscow, March 24.

The Soviet authorities today acclaimed the success of the first year of their cattle raising drive but severely criticised local livestock and fodder production.

They listed nearly 40 areas for various shortcomings, blaming local Communist parties in the first place, in a joint declaration issued by the Soviet Council of Ministers (Cabinet) and the Communist Party's Central Committee.

Results would have been much better, they said, if all local Party and Soviet bodies had given the question of livestock raising central place in their day-to-day agricultural work.

They ordered all collective farms to fulfil quotas during the present second year of the three-year livestock plan and forbade the harmful practice of killing or selling stock before the proper stage of development.

The first year had ensured a considerable increase in deliveries of meat, milk, butter, eggs, wool and hides, the authorities declared.

Cattle herds now numbered a quarter again as much as before the war, sheep, goats and poultry were up by half on 1940 and pigs had increased by a sixth over the pre-war level.

Poultry had doubled while pigs had increased by 78 per cent over the past year.

Fat cattle deliveries to the State increased by 218,000 heads or 31 per cent over the previous year and 20 per cent over 1940.

"At the same time, in some regions, territories and republics, Party, Soviet, and agricultural bodies failed to secure the fulfilment of the assignment as regards the organisation in State farms of the stipulated number of livestock-raising sections", the joint statement added.—Reuter.

Pesaro, March 24.

Italian Communists today raided and set fire to a stationers' shop at Fano, near here, because the Christian Democrat proprietor refused to close during Wednesday's nationwide general strike.—Reuter.

TURKEY AND ITALY SIGN NEW ACCORD

Rome, March 24.

An Italo-Turkish friendship treaty was signed in Rome tonight. The friendship treaty and the accompanying agreement to negotiate a cultural accord at the earliest possible moment were described by the Italian Foreign Office as of political significance, inasmuch as regards the common interests and objectives of the Governments of Rome and Ankara.

Death of foremost labour intellectual

(Continued from Page 6)

On that visit Mr. Laski defended himself against charges that he had uttered anti-Catholic statements, Catholic groups objecting to his appearance picketing the hotel where he spoke.

A few weeks previously he had addressed by radio from London a rally in New York sponsored by the Spanish Refugee Appeal and urged the democracies to withdraw their recognition of the Francisco Franco regime and to recognise the Spanish Government in exile then functioning in Mexico.

He declared that "everyone knows that Franco's regime has been a massive failure, corrupt, cruel and ignorant," and he ridiculed the idea that a Spanish monarchy could be established through the free choice of the Spanish people. He asked if a monarchy was "likely to prevent the Roman Catholic Church in Spain from remaining a rich monopolist at the expense of mass poverty."

The pickets carried signs bearing such legends as: "Oust Laski, the anti-Catholic hate-monger," and "Franco saved Spain from the Reds, Mr. Laski."

Denied attacking religion

Mr. Laski, denied that he had attacked the Roman Catholic religion, saying his life had been devoted to tolerance. "I made a criticism of a State, as I am entitled to criticise all States, including my own, for having assisted in the massacre of a great democracy," he said. While he did not name the State, it was explained later that he referred to the Vatican.

"Our peoples didn't make the immense sacrifices of this war," he continued, "to perpetuate either a tyranny like that of Franco, or on unifying mythology like a Vatican-sponsored King of Spain training hastily to learn the vocabulary of the Four Freedoms while making it painfully evident he finds no meaning in the words."

Later, in a speech in England, Professor Laski said he hoped Britain would "energetically support all efforts to get rid of Franco's poisonous regime and restore Spain, not to some Vatican-sponsored monarch, but to the common people whom Hitler and Mussolini combined to deprive of their freedom."

Son of a family which went to Manchester, England, several generations ago from Russia and Poland, Mr. Laski was born in that industrial centre June 30, 1893, and brought up in an orthodox Jewish household. He was educated at Manchester Grammar School and New College, Oxford, where he won First Class Honours in the School of Modern History in 1914. Mr. Laski married Frida Kerry and they had one daughter. He once told a writer preparing a biography of him: "I really don't think there is anything to say about me except that I am honest and anxious to see a decent world before I die."—Reuter and Associated Press.

The Foreign Office said the pact carried the Italo-Turkish accord of friendly collaboration into the large European picture.

The Italian Foreign Minister, Count Carlo Sforza, signing for Italy, said the treaty accentuates an always more active collaboration for the advantage of the two peoples, equally desirous of peace and progress.

"The accord stipulated today proposed to give to Italo-Turkish relations an inspiration responding to those traditional of humanity and democracy which constitute the essence itself of our common Mediterranean civilisation."

Count Sforza made no reference to the possibility of a general Mediterranean pact, but both he and the Turkish Foreign Minister, Necmeddin Sadak, expressed the hope that other nations would follow the example set.

Other pacts?

This is regarded as a hint that both countries will be willing to enter into other bilateral pacts which could in effect create such a Mediterranean pact.

"In this hard post-war period, Italy considers it a duty to associate her forces with those of her friend Turkey always better to realise the organised European co-operation which can only fortify peace among free peoples," said Count Sforza.

"It is for me a matter of profound satisfaction to inform the Minister of Turkey that the Italian Government is firmly decided to follow that policy of Italo-Turkish friendship and aid the work of peace and European co-operation, which only can guarantee the development of our civilisation."—United Press.

DUTCH STAND ON WESTERLING

Jakarta, March 24.

Mr. Johannes Van Maarseveen, Dutch Minister for Overseas Territories, said here today that if the rebel leader Captain Raymond "Turco" Westerling were extradited from Singapore to Holland, the Dutch Government would arrest and prosecute him.

Mr. Maarseveen had just arrived from The Hague. Westerling, a Dutch citizen and former Commando Captain, is in prison in Singapore, serving a month's sentence for illegally entering the Colony.

He left Indonesia after secretly leading a rebellion against the Government of the United States of Indonesia, during which he took the important West Java city, Bandung.

The Sultan of Jogjakarta, the Indonesian Defence Minister, disclosed today that most of the people arrested in connection with the Westerling rising would be released in the course of the next week.

He added that it was up to the Government to decide if they would be deported.

Westerling's unofficial "Army of the Heavenly Host" was recruited from among former members of the Dutch Indonesian Army demobilised in Indonesia and other elements who were against the Government of the new United States of Indonesia.—Reuter.

Pertinent question for Peking

New York, March 24.

"The Times" editorial today, pointing out the Chinese Communist radio a month ago complained because United States officials had not yet left China, questioned why the Chinese Reds are today preventing Americans from leaving.

A single direction from Moscow could change the Chinese attitude almost overnight but such direction was not forthcoming.

The editorial continued: "It now seems apparent that Moscow will be satisfied to prevent any possible understanding between the United States and the Chinese Communists even far short of the recognition level while at the same time carrying out a boycott of the United Nations because the Chinese Communists are not welcomed by United Nations members including the United States."

"This double dealing suggests at least that the Soviet Union is not concerned with reaching any basis of agreement in the United Nations and that it will make it as difficult as possible for the United States and other members to find such a basis."

"Under those conditions we are justified in assuming that the present course of action in Shanghai and Lake Success has been planned with a view to creating maximum embarrassment for the United States and maximum confusion for the United Nations."—United Press.

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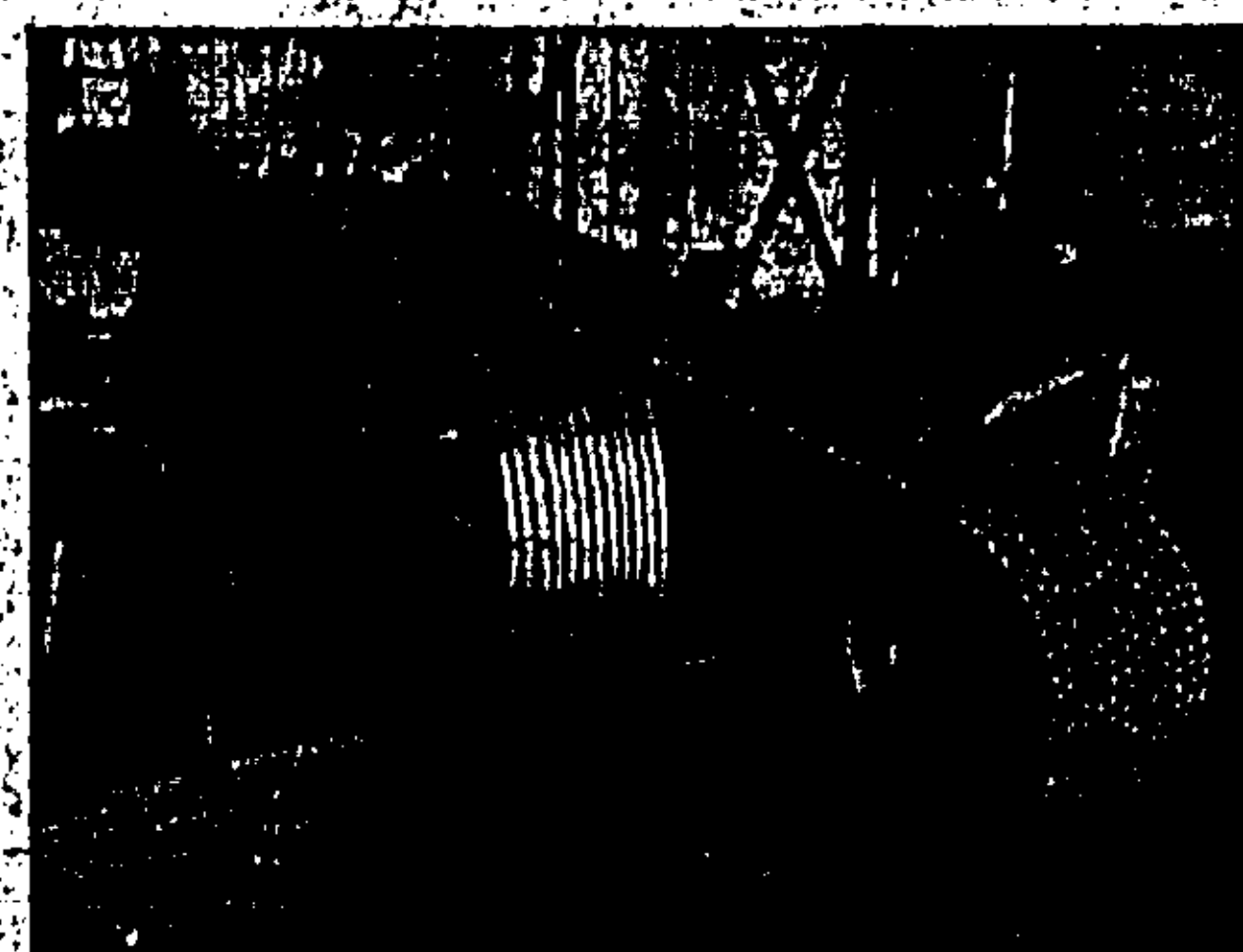
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ABLE SEAMAN



By HOLT

Your life and Mine

by IRIS ASHLEY

So now the newspapers are full of stories about spies and counter-spies; which last are not, as our dumb girl friend thought, store detectives.

We all know what a spy looks like. Spies are female, young, beautiful, and very nicely up-hoisted; they always have long hair. Spies are never called Doris or Myrtle; they are named Anna or Olga.

This Olga is of special interest to all of us just now because it is suggested that our Intelligence Service—with the pleasantly enigmatic name of M.I.5—needs recruiting.

Two years ago in America this question was put to the public: "Do you favour maintenance of secret agents in peace-time?" And 77 per cent answered with a firm "Yes."

In fact, 77 per cent of the population of America were prepared to keep Olga Pulloffski the Beautiful Spy in the style to which she has grown so accustomed.

Of course nobody will ask US Britons our opinion, but since it will undoubtedly be our money M.I.5 is using, we ought to take an interest in Olga.

While we go our serene way, troubled only by fears of atom bombs and Government reforms, Olga is out on the world night after night facing a Fate Worse Than Death and looking very well on it, all things considered.

"All things considered," it should be explained means that such a Fate isn't the smooth easy-going affair it used to be. In the old days, a sip of champagne—a rose between the teeth—and the Plans were soon tucked in Olga's garter or some equally accessible place.

For World War II our sly siren had to learn a few tricks.

Double profit

In Kenya, people are trying to solve the acute timber shortage in the colony, and at the same time to reduce the cost of bananas.

Mvule, a mahogany type of wood, from which most of Kenya's furniture is made, is being planted together with banana trees. Mvule trees should be at least 40 feet apart, so, to avoid the intervening ground being wasted, bananas are being planted in between them.

Quick-growing and giving plenty of shade with their umbrella like fronds to the young trees, they also prevent the tropical sun from drying up the ground.

The purpose of these experiments is two-fold—the growing of first-class timber and the production of bananas, staple diet of the poorer natives. The present cost of banana is a halfpenny each. If the experiment is successful, bananas will be selling at ten for a penny.

Now she can crawl under barbed wire (and come out practically dressed), slide through a barrel of oily mud, work her way hand over hand on a rope across a 100ft drop; and last, but by no means least, down a quantity of dubious whisky, and still recall what the devil it's all about.

She can also get in and out of other people's hotel bedrooms with a facility that makes you think—and she can wheedle. Somehow we like to think of Olga.

of life: How are spies recruited? We never saw a poster anywhere that said: "Be a Spy And Live At The Savoy," or "Join M.I.5 And See Life Through A Key-hole...."

Alternatively we have never had a man slide up to us in the street and slip a note into our hand bearing the words, "Would you like to spy? If so, call Mr. Johnson, Central 3000000."

Not because we are unresponsive.



The popular idea

planning a champagne dinner at the Ritz in order to do a little wheedling...and all on the public's money.

It's a nice point, but if she is going to make a big effort, one of the "I love you, I love you, Count Orloff" kind, surely the enemy might be expected to foot the bill? And if he does, who can blame Olga if she pockets the odd cash?

After all, a spy's wardrobe has got to be good. Not a lot of material as we recall it; but awfully well cut.

Thinking of Olga's wardrobe, or, if you prefer, the lack-of-it, reminds us of an incident in Paris in May 1944.

We were sitting in a cafe enjoying the company of Olga, a French officer, and several little glasses of cognac. Olga was in something of a state because she had a message tattooed on her lower back, and she did not know just what it was about.

An emotional tear splashed into her brandy as she protested her allegiance to the cause, but she found it maddening to be the bearer of tidings she could never read, except backwards in a mirror.

One thing we do wonder, in view of M.I.5 getting a new lease

On the contrary we always hold our right palm in a position to receive anything going. Come to think of it, this last message would sound a trifle ambiguous in intention anyway.

A very impressive looking general has assured us that there are schools for spies, but he stopped there and left us with a mental picture of a lot of lovely girls wearing masks and wheeling by numbers. Privately, we feel Olga is too much of a perfectionist to have been taught by anyone.

The more we think of it the more we are convinced that the 77 per cent of the American public are right. We should maintain Olga.

In fact, writing about her has got us so worked up we are prepared to offer no less than 2s. 6d. a year to her upkeep. That ought to keep her steady in an unsteady world.

It has been suggested that we are old-fashioned, that modern spies are called Secret Agents and are all handsome, clean-cut young men who write novels as well.

Excuse us—but phoney to that! We have a passionate interest in spies since we were 10 years old, and if anybody wants our money then it's for Olga. Clean-cut, indeed! Good heavens, is there to be no romance left in life at all?

DIPLOMATIC ILLNESS

The Minister of Health has never been famous for his diplomacy, but the brief indispositions or infections which he is so prone to contract before Court functions or Cabinet meetings appear to be governed by some strange "diplomatic" code.

It is certainly difficult to believe that a Cabinet Minister who has proved himself so wantonly profigate with the public purse could show himself so privately mean as to refuse to incur the expense of hiring or purchasing a suit of evening clothes, unless such refusal were dictated by some strong ideological or sartorial prejudice.

Nor does it seem likely that the elegant Miss Jennie Lee would refuse to grant, out of her house-keeping allowance, the necessary supply to meet a supplementary estimate to cover the cost of her husband's conforming more closely to the accepted customs of his country.

No bulletins in the Press on the uncertain state of Mr. Bevan's health will succeed in concealing the fact that in this small matter, as in many greater, he is out of step with popular opinion.

Growing alarm

Mr. Stokes knows Europe well enough to dismiss as ridiculous the belief, no doubt shared by Mr. Bevan and Mr. Strachey, and which was voiced by the Left Wing "New Statesman," that "M. Auriole, like all his colleagues of the French Socialist Party, is a strict Marxist."

So far from that being the case, M. Auriole's political views are well to the right even of those of Mr. Stokes himself, with all his faith in private enterprise, high wages, and high profits. No other European "Socialist," save perhaps Belgium's M. Spaak, has expressed such growing alarm at the selfishly isolationist and doctrinaire policies pursued by British Socialism under Sir Stafford Cripps and Mr. Bevin.

It is to be hoped that, during his stay as his Majesty's guest, M. Auriole was able to persuade his Majesty's Ministers to abandon restrictive National Socialism and Marxism for the liberal Europeanism necessary for the survival not only of the Entente Cordiale but of the Western world itself.

His initiative

Mr. Churchill has so far succeeded in raising in the new Parliament the initiative which he held from the first day to the last of the election campaign. There should be no complaint against his action in taking the earliest opportunity of giving its majority machinery a full working test.

He was not to be diverted from this purpose by the electioneering threats of Mr. Morrison, already sighing for the days when he could roll out the Socialist barrel because the gang was always there.

Mr. Morrison, who, it may be remembered, used to deplore the inactivity of the Opposition in the last Parliament, is himself largely to blame for his present difficulties in having to see that his sadly diminished gang is all

Behind the political scene

By Alastair Forbes



"Darn it!"

there. He could almost certainly have avoided a division on the King's Speech by including in it statements on iron and steel and on housing calculated to ensure the support of all three parties.

The Conservative amendment on the former was skillfully worded in order to call attention to the Government's own initial failure to remove uncertainty on this issue. No less skillful was the manner in which it sought to make certain of Liberal support for the Conservative Party on the first division of the new Parliament.

Furthermore, it seems likely that on every vital issue where the Tories are leading the attack, the Liberals are in honour bound to follow.

It is true that Mr. Clement Davies did his utmost to persuade his followers to evade the main issue on which the election they had so firmly committed themselves. But Mr. Davies has by now learnt enough about the difficulties of leading the Liberal rump to know that when his troops march off in the opposite direction to that which he has indicated it is wiser for him to swallow his pride and continue to lead them from the rear.

Liberal change

In this case the saner counsels of Mr. Hopkin Morris, Mr. Grimond, and Mr. Wade prevailed, and their colleagues were reminded, before it was too late, of their responsibilities to the electorate. Unfortunately for the party, the exposition of its case was left in the hands of Mr. Bowen, whose sympathies evidently lay with Mr. Clement Davies, and who had not been able to get out of his head the speech he had presumably earlier prepared to explain his proposed abstention.

Mr. Bowen grew exceedingly involved as he sought to explain the manoeuvre of the night before, when his party had decided to give warning to the Government Chief Whip so that its last-minute switch to support of the Tories might be confined to hurting Liberal sensibilities without hurting the Labour majority.

Mr. Morrison would, however, be wrong in thinking that the Liberal about-face was occasioned by Mr. Churchill's proposal of a committee to study electoral representation rather than by a simple desire not to shirk its clear commitments to the electorate.

Significant move

Liberals outside Parliament are keeping their minds much freer from diehard anti-Tory prejudices than their scarce representatives at Westminster. They have been swift to notice that the Government has rescinded direction of labour in order to avoid a division on the Frayser for its annulment tabled by Tory, and not by Liberal, members.

This has been possibly the most significant political move of the past week. Because it is evident that when the economic crisis once again surfaces from the cover which devaluation has temporarily given it Socialist policies will be unable to maintain either full employment or the present standard of living without having recourse to full-scale direction of labour.

Therefore the doing away with this necessary adjunct to the fully-planned full employment State is the logical precursor of a further thaw in the freezing of other aspects of the national economy.

Unfrozen

The vote freeze ended on February 23. Now the end of the job freeze is brought into sight.

The end of the wage freeze is just over the horizon, heralded by a rumble of mounting claims. Nor will arbitrary divided limitation resist the change in temperature. When the avalanche has passed one new and solitary frozen block will survive—the nationalisation freeze, which has been the principal useful by-product of 1950's winter election.

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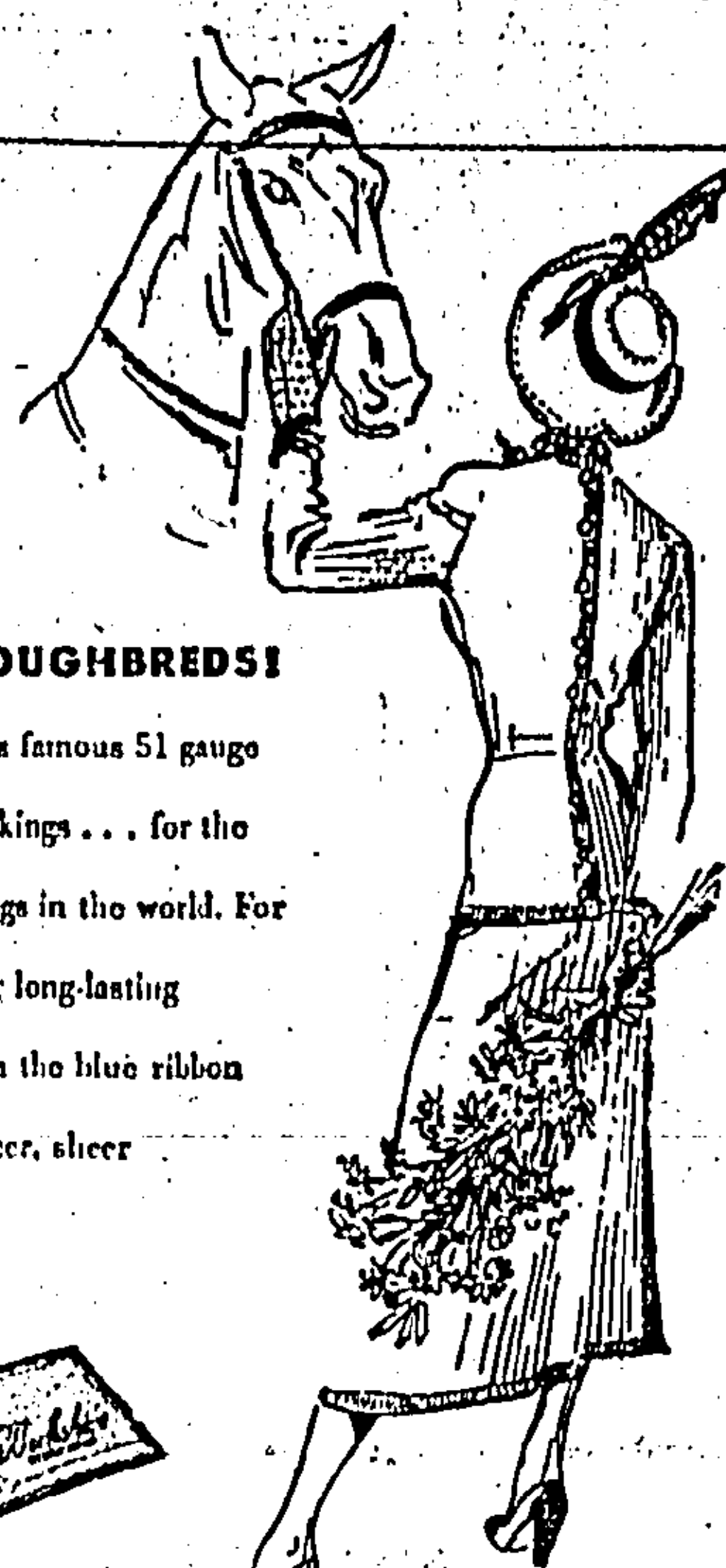
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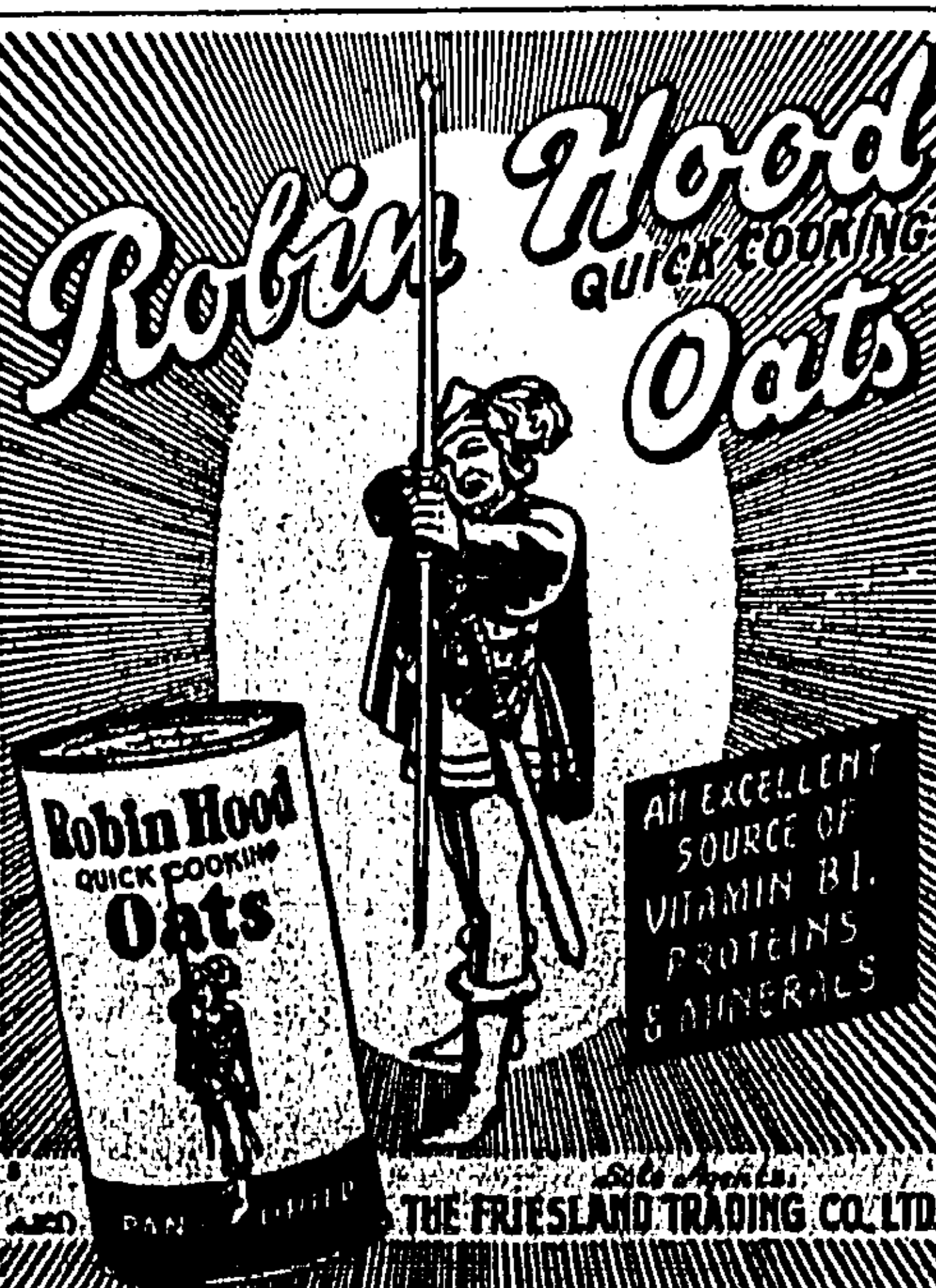
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Distinguished
historian

Erudition and a diplomatic upbringing have combined to make Dr. Eduardo Brazao one of the most distinguished members of the diplomatic corps in Hong Kong.

He is Consul-General for Portugal, and doyen of the local consular body. Dr. Brazao has held his office for three years, and reports say that he will soon be recalled to hold an important department in the Foreign Office at Lisbon.

As the man responsible for the well-being of a few thousand Portuguese subjects in Hong Kong, Dr. Brazao holds what is probably the most important consular job here. The Portuguese community in the Colony comprises the largest national group after the Chinese and the British.

Although he is very interested in his diplomatic work—and as Consul has done a lot to promote



DR. EDUARDO BRAZAO

interest in Portugal—Dr. Brazao is first and foremost an historian. He has published more than 30 books and periodicals touching on Portuguese history.

Contrary to the impression gained at school, history need not be a dry subject. Dr. Brazao has been interested in it from youth, and is now fully convinced that there is nothing more inspiring than the attempt to explain a modern nation's position in the world from the annals of her past achievements.

His works attempt to fill the gap created by the death of Portugal's greatest historian, the Count of Santarem, who was Minister of Foreign Affairs in the cabinet of King Michael. His count was exiled in Paris after the fall of the Portuguese monarchy.

Dr. Brazao has published numerous works on the intricate relations of Portugal's diplomatic relations with the rest of the world. He has always been guided by the belief that a nation of Portugal's size depends for its survival on the tact of her diplomacy. By shedding light on the past trends of her foreign policy, he thinks Portugal's future international relations will be more easily determined.

His works are involved, and do not make easy reading. They

bear such titles as "Portugal in the Congress of Utrecht," "The Relations Between Don Juan and the Holy See," and "The Monarchy of John the Fifth."

To gather his facts and material he has had to pore over dusty tomes in the archives of the Vatican, the private letters of the Earl of Tarouca, whose name is the noblest in Portugal and the libraries of the Duke of Marlborough, the Bodleian, and the University of Lisbon.

Although by choice an academician, Dr. Brazao was schooled for a career of diplomacy from early youth. His father held important posts abroad, and the Brazaos have been associated with the Foreign Office for several generations.

His work has been widely acknowledged in Europe, and he has received several decorations, including one from the Holy See, which he received personally from Prince Chigi. This decoration was the Order of the Knights of Malta, one of the noblest in Europe.

Dr. Brazao's term of service in Hong Kong has been historically fruitful, as he has written a notable book on European activities in the Far East, with particular emphasis on the Portuguese colonialization of Macao. This book is topical and deals with some of the most vital aspects of the controversial Far Eastern question—it is really an attempt to explain the present and future in the light of developments in this past.

The Consul-General is always meticulously attired. He dresses to fit the role of a diplomat, and does this to perfection. Quiet and soft-spoken, he talks with a continental accent which enhances the charm of his personality. In a piquant French sauce does to ordinary cooking.

Although his whole department suggests that he is determined to remain aloof from the noisy world of current affairs, I have the feeling that he is concerned with the way things are going and is trying in his own fashion to help arrest the drift to chaos.

Dr. Brazao was presented to the Pope, whom he met at the Vatican when research led him to explore the oldest religious library in the world. In 1944 he toured Portuguese Africa with the Cardinal Cereira, Primate of Portugal.

He is married and the father of three children. His son is studying in Lisbon.

When I asked him what makes him write history, Dr. Brazao said that recording the past in the language of today is to him the most fascinating of all work. History is no easy subject, and he agrees with Gibbon—who devoted his life to describing the decline and fall of Rome—that in the end it must be its own reward.

But in the course of research into libraries where the tomes are falling into decay, where the books are so old that slight pressure may tear a page—the world of Prince Henry the Navigator, Camoes the poet, and Da Gama

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

By The SCRIBE

the explorer, lives again and breathes anew.

That, to him, is the attraction which drives him on.

Business executive

Mr. James Schneider, head of the World Commerce Corporation of New York, is in Hong Kong on a business survey. He will be returning in a few days to Tokyo, where his firm has a branch office at the Chiyoda Building.

The World Commerce Corporation is a giant New York enterprise which deals with import



MR. JAMES SCHNEIDER

and export on a large scale, and functions, as its name implies, on a world basis.

It serves as an exchange house for the products of the East and West.

The Tokyo branch serves Japan, and is the observation post for the Far East.

Mr. Schneider hopes from this trip to Hong Kong to develop business with the Colony. He is impressed by what he has seen, and firmly believes there is room for expansion. It will be a long time before the current business boom dissipates, he thinks.

The World Commerce Corporation made international news a few months ago when the "Readers Digest"—one of the largest-selling magazines in the United States—devoted considerable space to a story about its development. Like so many other famous American institutions, it began humbly. Today it is one of the giants in its field.

Mr. Schneider is a big man, with a lot of hope in the future. He believes that the personal approach is the best method of conducting trade, which is why with every new stride in aviation the turnover of international business achieves a new record. He is making as many contacts as possible on this trip.

Once a pilot

A young Englishman who once flew for the Royal Air Force and

later the CNAC, has taken to advertising as the best means of making a living.

He is Mr. Bernard Croft, who lost his job when CNAC defected to the Communists and he refused to do the same.

Not yet 27 years of age, Mr. Croft has led an adventurous life from youth. He did war service with the RAF, studied in Canada and the United States, and flew thousands of miles for the CNAC before that airline took the decision in November which has grounded all its planes ever since.

From piloting to advertising is not an incongruous step, Mr. Croft told me the other day. In both professions he is always being tempted to fly higher than he should.

He is a Londoner who thoroughly loves his city. Few people know it as well. He will tell you that Cleopatra's Needle has nothing to do with Cleopatra, but is simply an Egyptian obelisk which was brought to England on a vessel named after the famed Queen of the Nile—hence the name.

He will also tell you that beneath the Needle are buried a man's dinner jacket, a baby's bottle, and a safety pin—for the bewilderment of future generations.

Mr. Croft was stationed with the RAF at Chitangong in the latter stages of the Pacific War, and came to China immediately after it. For a while he flew with the RAF on diplomatic missions to Nanking, and soon after demobilisation accepted a commission with the China National Aviation Corporation. He was one of the only two English pilots serving with the airline.

Years of contact with Americans—virtually 90 per cent of CNAC's pilots were Americans—have left their marks on Mr. Croft, and he no longer talks like an Englishman. Traces of a London accent are still evident, but a soft rolling of the R's, the



MR. BERNARD CROFT

almost narrow A's, and clipped, staccato sentences invariably proclaim that one type of speech is in process of replacement by another.

Mr. Croft has not been home for five years, and is missing his mother whom he has not seen for the same length of time. He is planning to fly home soon to visit his people and to make arrangements for the opening of an import-export office in Hong Kong.

He tells me he was never fond of flying, and the life of a pilot never appealed to him. This constant dashing about, the elusiveness of a settled existence, and the danger always lurking in the clouds, are bad for the mind, and detract from the glamour in aviation.

"Believe me," he says, "if birds could only walk well, they would never flap their wings again."

A sincere young man, Mr. Croft reminds me of Julian Grenfell whose poetry contains such a streak of sorrow because already at 21 glamour had begun to fade from things which at 14 he had regarded as inspiring and attractive.

She came home

Agnes Newton Keith, authoress of a thrilling book about the Japanese occupation of Borneo, is visiting Hong Kong for a few days en route to Canada. She came here from Manila.

Mrs. Keith became world-famous after publication of her book "And Three Came Home," which appeared serially in the "Atlantic Monthly" almost immediately after the Japanese surrendered to the Australian and American forces in Borneo.

It was written while she, her husband, and baby, were interned. It deals with the human side of war—the terrible tragedy and uselessness of it.

After the serialisation, it came out in book form and became a best-seller overnight. Its success is partly due to the fact that Mrs. Keith devoted many pages to simple descriptions of everyday life in a Japanese prison camp. People who were tired of Ernie Pyle's lurid reports of the frontlines, Sir Philip Gibbs' graphic stories of German brutality, and John Hersey's remarkable account of the atomic blast at Hiroshima, found in her book a refreshingly sympathetic rendering of war's real pathos.

She would, for instance, devote many pages to the appearance of a snake in her bungalow one night when all was dark. Or she would attempt to convey the Japanese manner of conversing in English all in a light, airy fashion, full of rich humour. I understand that Hollywood has just made a picture based on her book.

Mrs. Keith is an American whose husband was a British colonial official in Borneo. The chapters in her book "And Three Came Home" devoted to her gradual acceptance of the un-American behaviour of Mr. Keith make excellent reading. They paint the amusing bewilderment of a slightly young American wife in the face of the unruffled calm of her English husband, the contrast of personalities, outlook, habits.

Mrs. Keith says she has never fully surrendered to the British way of life of her husband, and is trying hard to persuade him, for instance, to ask for coffee instead of tea.

She is gathering material for a new book, which will also be about Asia. Now fully recovered from the effects of the war, she is travelling with her husband. She has divided her life as an authoress from her career as a housewife, because she believes that the two are not reconcilable.

One of the most outstanding qualities of her writing is her simplicity. She continually paints graphic little pictures with the most homely words in the language.

Going to England

When he goes to England in a few months to take up a course in social welfare, young Mr. James Poon will be realising a childhood ambition. He will be travelling under the auspices of the Hong Kong Gov-

ernment, who have received a recommendation from many social welfare bodies here to award him a scholarship.

Mr. Poon has just graduated from Wah Yan College, and is not yet 21. He is working as Field Secretary for the Boys and Girls' Clubs' Association where, together with Mr. Hubert Lai, the Association's Secretary, he is trying hard to send a little cheer into the drab lives of street urchins.

He is very interested in his work, and devotes more time than he should to it. Children have a particular appeal for him, and he tells me he is never as happy as when they begin to grasp the inherent worthiness of learning how to read and write.

Mr. Poon is athletically built, and was one of the leading Wah Yan sportsmen of his time. He chose to become a social worker rather than enter commerce because his father—who is a teacher in Kowloon—taught him early in life that to be of benefit to others is the main thing.

Handsome and ambitious, Mr. Poon is looking forward to his



MR. JAMES POON

trip to England to see for himself the land of Shakespeare and Shelley which up to the present he only knows from books.

He likes music very much and is also learning to sing. He hopes the ship will stop for a while at Naples which he has come to admire because of the haunting quality of the folk songs which originated there.



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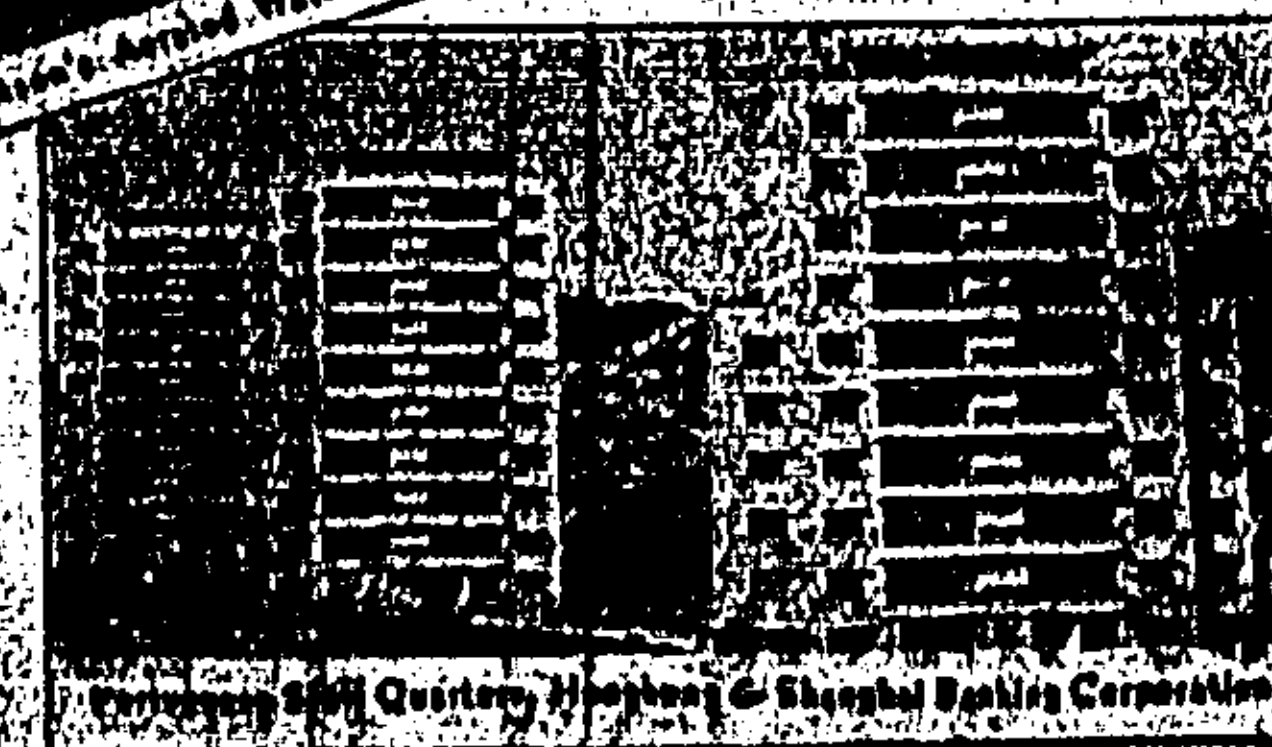
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Because of the mists obscuring the international outlook everyone cocked an ear when the Minister for External Affairs made his first Parliamentary statement—on our foreign policy.

Highlights were an early peace treaty with Japan and a Pacific Pact based on defensive arrangements with the United States. The realistic presentation of the Government's aim emphasized that Australia's task is in the Pacific area, particularly in South East Asia. There was no pulling of punches about the limitations imposed on the Pacific Nations by the breach between Russia and the Democracies, or the responsibility of Moscow for much of the present day tension in the world.

The author of the Sponder plan for South East Asia made it clear that it hadn't a chance of relieving current problems, and indicated Indo-China as a danger spot. Urging similar relationship with the United States to that existing within the British Commonwealth, Mr. Sponder said that a Pacific Pact without the United States of America would be almost meaningless.

However, although the United States seems destined to shoulder the heavy end of the South West Pacific burden she is not rushing things and a hint has been dropped that Washington would like to see the Dutch and Australians get together on the New Guinea problem.

With the Dutch confession of inability to provide effective defence in New Guinea, Australians can see Indonesia pushing in which worsens the dilemma created by the Communists in China, the Sino-Russian treaty, and the Sino-Russian support of the Indo-Chinese Communists. The situation requires some cunning and provides a test for good quick decisions on policy, as even if it is to be a headache, Australia is for it, or else.

It is on the cards that Indonesia will demand inclusion in the South Pacific Commission created under Dr. Evatt's prompting, and probably the Philippines also will desire membership. This would create a delicate situation for nations with colonial domains, particularly as the Philippines are obviously one of the key nations in the South Pacific Pact.

Difficulties created by the former Minister for Immigration and the delay in reciprocal understanding on air traffic between the Philippines and Australia have been ironed out and the carpet will be spread for Mr. Sponder's Easter visit, important as the first official visit to the Republic by a Commonwealth minister.

On the home front

On the home front the Government policy of rooting out the Communists has to stand up to plenty of hostility from the Labour party despite the fact that time and time again in the past 20 years Labour members have actually accused the Communists not only of playing the Russian game but of obtaining their funds from Russia.

The Cabinet has announced that it has taken care of the constitutional and practical difficulties of ousting Communist planters in the trade-unions, but with Mr. Chifley blandly referring to Communism as merely a political philosophy, and Mr. Holloway who was made a Privy Councillor by the former Government, going one better by saying it is based on the teachings of Christ, there is bound to be a Labour yelp when the balloon goes up.

The Fuchs conviction has set Australia looking to her security

AUSTRALIAN LETTER

system and the electors who saw fit to change the Government are still of the opinion that there should be no special leniency here for a traitorous and subversive organization. Incidentally the peep into the security show revealed eight competing Government agencies in Sydney alone, and while all work for the same objective—the security of Australia—in practice they often work in direct opposition. If the cloak and dagger boys are not to spend more time on each other's doings than on the enemies of Australia there will have to be a spot of co-ordinating, because, as it is, one agency often takes a statement and then warns against giving the information to another agency stressing this as a safeguard against the information going straight into the files of the Communists!

Grim outlook

However, determined though Cabinet undoubtedly is, these men are not miracle workers and the outlook for winter is grim with every likelihood of coal rationing and power restrictions because of the low output resulting from a series of strikes. Currently the steel works have heavily cut operations because of the collieries dispute which is keeping production below half, and there is the threat of serious unemployment at steel works and allied industries unless there is immediate improvement in coal production.

Meanwhile, despite the chaotic domestic scene, there is a certain amount of national preening since Australian-born Professor Wicare, Gladstone Professor of Government and Public Administration at Oxford University, has seen fit to announce that Australia is well governed. Re-visiting his native land after 25 years, he found that the one thing unchanged was the feeling of optimism, the belief in the future, and the conviction that progress was certain to come. Further to this, whether for good measure or because he from the warmth of his own hearthstone is not revealed, he said it was encouraging, inspiring to be among people like this because they faced the future with confidence and courage—even though they may not examine carefully enough the grounds upon which they base their belief.

A terrific blunder

Former POW's who consider they know the Japanese are convinced that the war trials are a terrific blunder, and that the Japanese still believe that they can conquer Australia—the country they have always wanted to colonise.

A group of ex-prisoners of war which wants war criminals released and the whole Japanese nation held responsible for the atrocities of its soldiers, has organised a petition to the Government because they consider that by trying, executing, and imprisoning a handful of men, Australia is, in effect, telling the Japanese nation that the atrocities are the work of irresponsible soldiers.

The petition states that it would be a better thing to impose a fine on the whole Japanese nation, making the payment adequate compensation for the relatives of men who died under torture and

heavy enough also to enable us to develop Northern Australia as a defence bastion.

The five millionth chance in birth statistics—Siamese twins—has brought a deal of varied though sympathetic publicity to a little family in Tasmania, and throughout the Commonwealth there is intense concern for the future of the girl twins who are joined by the top of the skulls.

Nature is fighting for the life of these babies who seem likely to survive although the doctor which attended the birth holds out no easy hopes for a surgical miracle which will free them. His opinion is that the children will be able to move only by eternally crouching. Public sympathy for the parents has started a fund to provide the best specialist attention which might give some hope of making a surgical separation.

At first morbid curiosity swirled about the event and now men were early on the scene. Offers of adoption poured in but the mother quickly sensed a showman interest abhorrent to her instinct to tend and shelter, and whatever happens the twins will not be on view except to medical men, for science always holds out hopes of triumphing over the mistakes of nature.

Mixed babies

Another baby case that has been discussed with equal sympathy and heat in all walks of life is that of the Kyneton mixed babies, and funds have been raised for the case to go before the Privy Council. In this case Mrs. Gwen Morrison believes that her baby and the child of Mrs. Noel Jenkins were given to the wrong mothers at the Kyneton Hospital in 1945. She claimed in the Supreme Court that Noella Jenkins, aged 4½, was her baby. The judge ruled that the babies had been mixed and ordered that Noella Jenkins be returned to Mrs. Morrison. On appeal the State Full Court and the High Court reversed this decision.

A forward step in prisoner's rehabilitation, the broadcast by the Goulburn Prisoners' Orchestra, may soon feature in a nationwide broadcast to the United States. When the originator and composer of the programme visited New York recently NBC officials asked for records of the next broadcast.

Americans were amazed that musical talent could find an outlet under such conditions and experts intend to explore the possibilities of making a similar broadcast from an American prison. The Goulburn broadcasts are given from the prison chapel which, because of bad acoustics is shrouded for the occasion in grey prison blankets which provide sound-proofing for the three microphones.

Greivous as was the deathroll of the great air disaster in Wales it is realised here that it is not a record as was claimed. Wartime censorship clamped down on the story in 1943 when 127 persons were killed when a Liberator with bomb load crashed into the 2/25th Battalion as it was waiting at a

Port Moresby airfield to be taken to the Ramu Valley.

Business men tear their hair and business colleges are driven frantic by the shortage of shorthand typists. One suggestion being given serious consideration is for an Association of Temporary Typists to be used as a work pool to help employers in need of typists for special jobs.

Another suggestion for meeting the acute shortage is to bring in 10,000 young migrants preferably from Baltic and Scandinavian countries, who would be taught English, shorthand, and typing on arrival. Australian associations would have to sponsor the migrants and find accommodation for them, but if there is one thing scarcer than typists it is accommodation, which seems to add up to a big chance for a mailing dictaphone disc that can be duplicated for the reference file.

Smoking dilemma

Unless fresh sources of outside supply can be found Australian smokers are in for a thin time. Local production can't supply more than 10 per cent of present needs and the Government finds it will have to cut down on dollar tobacco.

One way and another tobacco blenders are not optimistic about the future of the Australian tobacco industry because of the lack of cheap field labour rules out hand cultivation, and the rotary hoe and the mechanical sprayer produces a coarser leaf than that from hand-tended fields. Surveys show that there are only three areas capable of producing tobacco in commercial quantities, and of these the Marree-Dimboola area in Queensland is the most promising but for greater success requires irrigation—a little matter not as yet on the State Government list.

Real estate men are reaping a harvest, but they never miss a trick. Latest gem is to work on the enthusiasm for trout fishing when they handle grazing lands watered by trout streams, for each season sees an increase in the numbers of anglers and as yet they are not fussy whether the trout are of the rainbow or brown variety. The Government has started a scheme which will mean more trout in more streams (creeks to any but anglers) and has begun the building of modern hatcheries that finally will cost about £25,000.

Australian wharves attract more scorn than any other section of the community but undoubtedly they have their standards, as illustrated by the highly coloured dialogue overheard at a transport depot. Decontaminated 'tis thus: 'Anyway, he shouldn't have repeated that—it was said in a pub.'

Inside information

By Mercury

A member of the Socialist Party executive has informed Mr. Herbert Morrison that British trade-union political funds cannot afford to support an early election.

A standardised ration system for West European armies has been worked out by Western Union Staff officers.

Israeli buyers in Egypt are negotiating for 18,000 tons of barbed wire to strengthen frontier positions.

UN officials will reassert their claims to inspect British colonies.

An economic conference of Moslem states will take place in Teheran this year.

An Anglo-French plan for co-operation against Communism in the Far East, completed during the Presidential visit to England, is being forwarded to Washington.

The British Overseas Food Corporation livestock farm in Queensland has produced its first pig. It is named after a senior official.

The Aga Khan is urging Moslem rulers to accept an offer of spiritual alliance from the Pope to combat Communism.

Even small forces cannot be kept battleworthy in Arctic conditions. This is one of the lessons learned by the U.S. Army in its Alaskan winter manoeuvres.

Portugal and Belgium are showing keen interest in the British-owned Benguela railway—Key section of the new Trans-Africa line now being created by a rail link through the Belgian Congo.

British governors in Africa want a round table conference with the Colonial Office this year. They are alarmed at the excessive speed of Whitehall's self-government policy for African peoples.

Queen Juliana of the Netherlands will be the next head of State invited to Britain.

A special souvenir album of Press reports on his visit to London has been flown to Paris for President Auriol.

U.S. airmen with special radar equipment have located important atom development stations in Soviet Siberia.

Sir Murdoch Macdonald, eminent British engineer, will be invited to Egypt to go over the Assuan dam project.

The big five in Moscow have decided to recall Bogomolov, Soviet Ambassador in France, since 1943. A stricter party man, Pavlov, will go from Brussels to replace him.

A group of French industrialists wishes to start a fund on Rhodes

Trust lines for sending French students to Britain.

Greeks and Yugoslavs have met in Switzerland recently. They want to reopen direct rail communications between Belgrade and Athens.

Reliable British Communists are being directed to join as many trade unions as they can, to give the party a maximum influence in trade disputes.

At the request of the Government, Coal Board departmental chiefs are trying to find means of reducing the coal production costs all round.

An American film organisation is unfreezing dollars in Sweden by having a ship built there and reselling it in New York.

Britain is selecting key men in the Hungarian Legation, whose withdrawal will be requested as a reprisal for ousting two British military attaches from Budapest. Princess Margaret will launch the first of a fleet of large shell tankers to run from the Persian Gulf to Britain.

Turkey is waiting for Allied permission to place an order with German shipyards for merchant ships to the value of £800,000.

Marshal Tito will send the Yugoslav football first eleven to Britain next November.

General Franz Halder, former Chief of German General Staff, is about to publish a diary.

A popular edition of the Marshall Aid report on American financial aid to Europe will soon be on sale in Britain.

A shadow government for a "West African republic" has been set up in Moscow.

The Argentine Ambassador in London, who recently resigned, has been blamed for British Press hostility to Madame Evita Peron, wife of the Argentine President.

West Germany has been forbidden by the Allies to send a German Consul to Communist China.

The U.S. Army is studying the effect of prolonged Arctic conditions on the morale of G.I.s. So far Canadian troops are doing better in severe climates.

British atom scientists are doubtful whether a hydrogen bomb can be produced without exploding spontaneously.

The U.S. atom bomb stockpile has now reached a size that would allow it to be used tactically against troop concentrations.

The U.S. Navy is experimenting with a projectile that can be released at shadowing aircraft from a submerged submarine.

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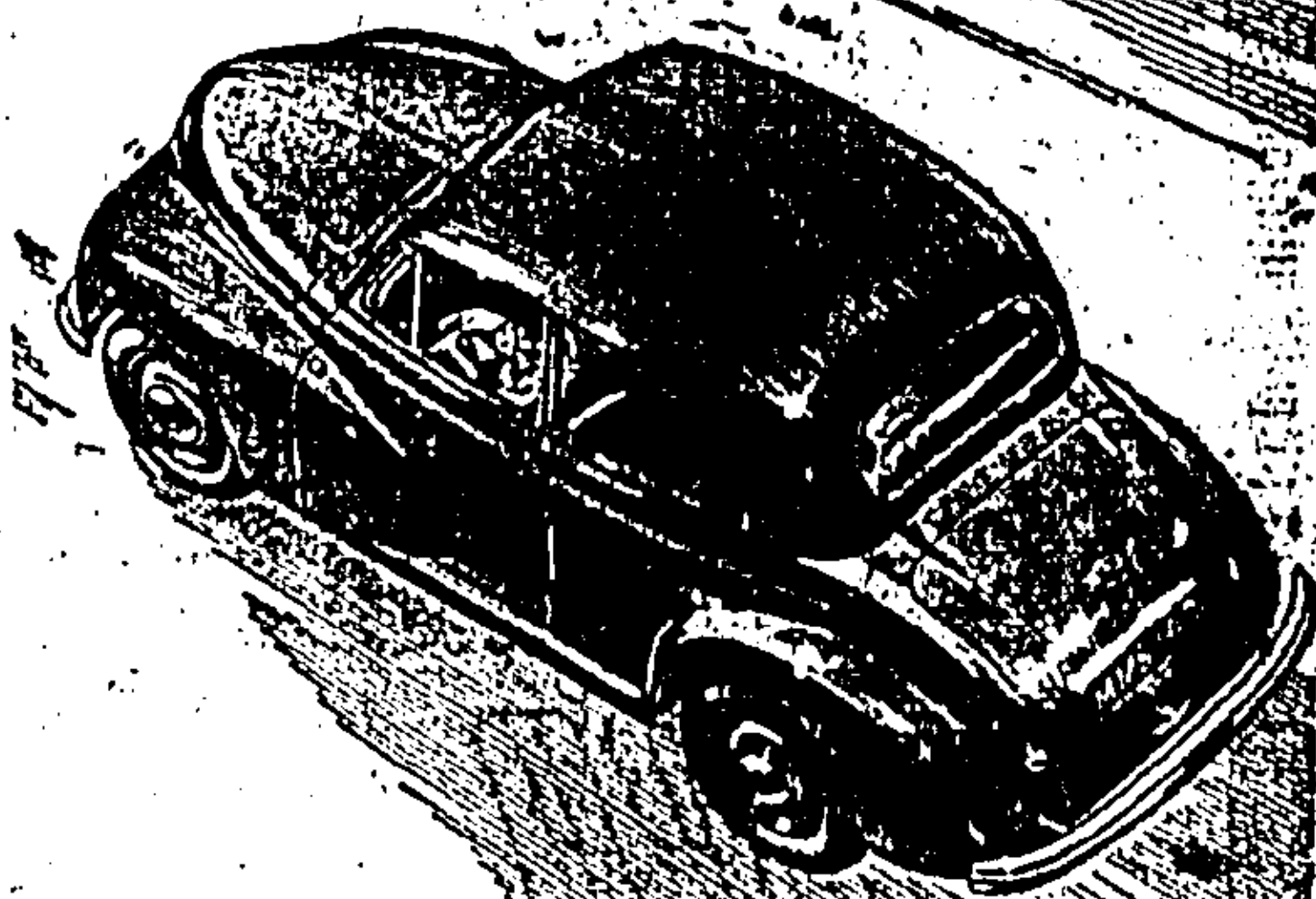


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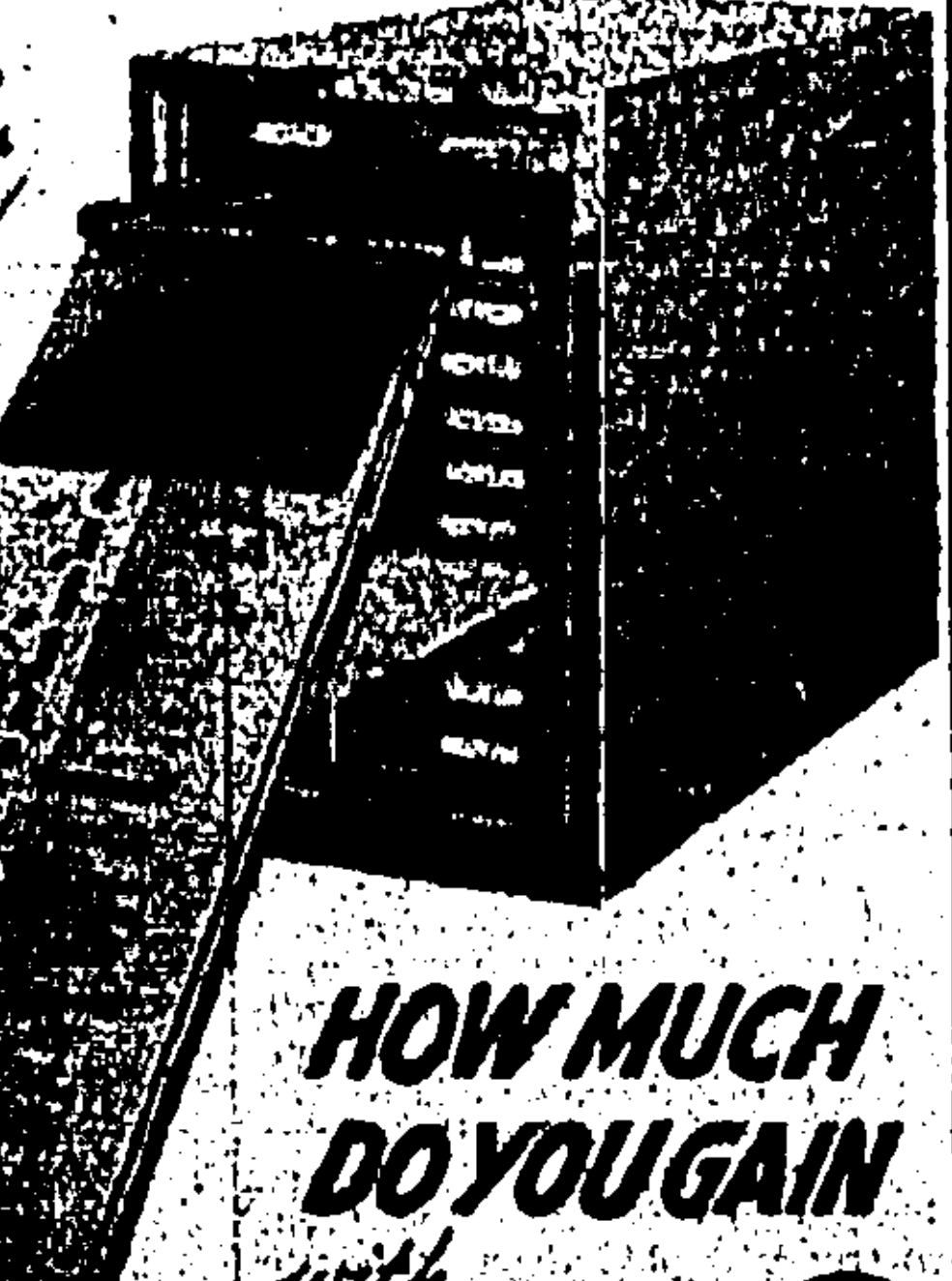
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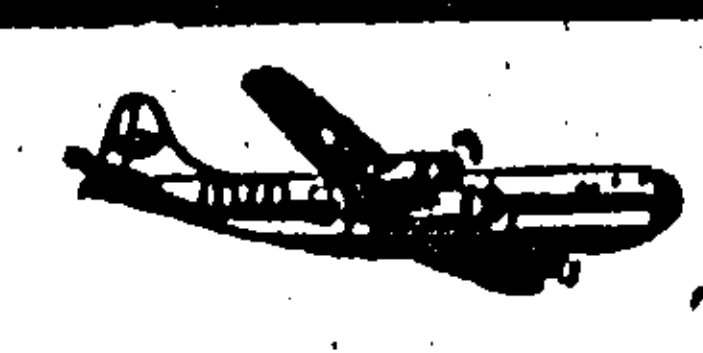
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DAIRY FARM FINDINGS

The report of the Arbitrator in the Dairy Farm dispute will no doubt be the subject of intensive study not only by the parties immediately involved, and those concerned in similar disputes, but by a wider public. Professor Robertson, in his clear and comprehensive report, emphasises that it was no part of his task to determine a minimum wage.

The dispute was based on the contention that the workers could not live on the existing income. They claimed an addition to the Rehabilitation Allowance of three dollars a day on the basis of a household budget they presented, showing the total income needed by a married couple with one child at a little more than \$333. The Arbitrator found the cost would be between \$200 and \$250 a month. Accordingly he awarded an additional allowance of \$30 a month, one-third of the amount demanded. In doing so, he took both housing accommodation, where provided, and tips into consideration. He also noted the relatively satisfactory pay of the Dairy Farm's employees, and that the workers' standards of living are in fact, and legitimately, on the upgrade.

The report reveals that there was much discussion at the Tribunal about the relevance of inflationary possibilities. Certainly possible repercussions of this particular case on the many other—and in some ways more important—similar disputes now pending, could hardly have been excluded from discussion. The Arbitrator took the view that the issue before him must be decided on the basis of the Dairy Farm position alone. At the same time the wider effects of any award had to be considered in its relation to the Dairy Farm employees, who would be as much affected as anybody else should an inflationary spiral develop.

Just what influence it did have in the way of "atmosphere" is not stated, nor would it be very practical to reduce what one might call an imponderable to an exact figure. Coping with an inflationary spiral is in any case almost as resistant to scientific calculation as the uneconomic pursuit by a cat of its own tail. The Arbitrator did form the opinion, however, that his award would not cause an inflationary spiral, and certainly that is justified on the strict domestic scope of the award.

The workers involved in this case are a small minority of the total concerned in similar disputes, and the total amount of the additional allowance for the Dairy Farm workers is an infinitesimal sum in relation to the Colony's economy. Public concern will rise or subside in accordance with the form of settlement of the other disputes. This, however, in general concentrates less on rising wages than on rising costs of living—on cause rather than effect. Fundamentally the two prime factors are food and rent, and of these the chief is rice. In the end it is the worker who is punished most by an inflationary spiral.

Hong Kong is at the cross-roads of an important decision: whether to accept defeat and transform part of the allowances into basic salary, or to organise a serious campaign to bring prices down. Far more could be done in many ways than has been done hitherto to accomplish this. Hong Kong is now check by law with a constant revenue

NEW RACE RELATIONS

Wherever trouble arises today in the racial field, the public in England is apt to see it in simple terms of white versus coloured, and to overlook the vast fund of good will which is still available as a basis for statesmanship.

Race relations in this generation, whether in Africa or elsewhere, are affected—one might almost say afflicted—by the new background of what is called "world opinion," centred in the United Nations.

A world forum has come into being where publicity and moral condemnation, possibly unfair and based on malice or ignorance, may be meted out to the Colonial Powers. The world is being swept by a ferment of nationalism, both real and spurious, and the clamour for self-government drowns the voices of caution and of reason.

As a natural result of our own work, our own teaching and our own principles of liberty, there has arisen in most Africa: Colonies the small dissident minority which is inspired by three main resentments: the bare fact of government by an alien race, the economic utilisation of the country by men of another race with superior endowments of education and experience and enterprise; and inequality in social intercourse, and inequality based as they see it on colour.

The intelligentsia have been quick to appreciate the power that irresponsibility can bring in these circumstances. All the ill that flesh is heir to are laid at the door of the dominant alien race, and they are able to focus discontent in a way that would be impossible if they were liable to be called upon to take charge.

In some Colonies they have already learnt the fatal lesson that a small, determined minority can destroy the efficiency of government and thereby gain ever-fresh recruits to the cause of revolution.

It is true that there is amongst the mass of the people a fundamental stock of good will towards the British. They are better off economically, socially and politically than the people of say, Liberia or Ethiopia, where self-government obtains. Fundamentally they still like us, but the Colonial relationship begins to irk them, and two world wars have damaged the prestige of the white races in a multitude of ways. They have heard of the emancipation of India and Pakistan and Ceylon and Indonesia and Burma, and they know

nothing of the falsity of comparisons between Asia and Africa. Obviously a reactionary policy on the part of Britain would be fatal. Equally a policy of hurried and premature withdrawal would be fraught with disaster.

Lack of decision.

It is a strange fact that, while colour prejudice has never been less than it is today, resentment of racial discrimination has never been more passionately vocal. It

By Lord Milverton

may be true that a fumbling lack of decision has aggravated the position, but that explanation has to be taken back a stage farther. The rise of the intelligentsia, the resentment of unequal treatment, the pathology of wounded self-esteem and vanity (to quote Mr. S. R. Crocker's brilliant book on the Colonies) find their parallel in our recent history. It is the Century of the Common Man. He is in charge. Resentment of superiority, refusal to recognise distinction as a good thing, the desire to level all men down instead of up, in short the apotheosis of the proletariat, has brought a high standard of degradation of high standards of thought and action. Materialism is rampant and lofty character is at a discount.

The disintegration of traditional tribal society in Africa finds a parallel in a similar disintegration in England. To rule others requires the strength of mind and acceptance of high principles which is free of the uneasy doubts that paralyse action. Moral courage and leadership are in decline. You cannot even guide an Empire on the road to self-government if you do not really believe in a Colonial mission.

Our dogmatic doctrinaires, always nervous and on edge of their own extreme Left and the other on the United Nations, with a palsied hand on the brake and a trembling foot on the accelerator, drive an aimless course towards chaos.

Words cannot help nor wit achieve.

Not even the all-gifted fool too weak to enter, bid or leave the lists he cannot rule. With pained surprise the Socialist Government finds the condemnation, once, as they thought, so rightly given to their predecessors, now turned upon themselves. Philip Snowden said long ago: "It is not white slavery but white slavery that this country suffers from."

Nationalism in Germany

By Scrutator

How is Western Germany progressing under its new regime? And are the hopes based on it by the Western Allies being realised? These are not questions to be answered offhand. The picture is a complicated one.

In the twenties, following the First World War, Allied experience of the German temperament was pretty uniform. Concession

after concession was made with the idea of conciliating the vanquished, whether by waiving our own rights or by conceding rights to them.

We went on down to the final withdrawal of the Allied military forces from German soil as a sequel to the Locarno agreement—a withdrawal which led directly to the revival and eventual triumph of Hitlerism.

Are we to repeat that experience? Let us hope not. But it should make the Allies for long years to come chary of withdrawing their own armed forces, or permitting any considerable German rearmament. At the same time it is essential not to limit our functions to repression. The only good future either for Germany or for Western Europe is that she should be educated into willing and co-operative membership of the Western society of democratic peoples. But that is a project for posterity, and the sustained effort in our part—effort conceived in a spirit of genuine friendliness and well-wishing.

Far from pleasant

At present the conditions of German life, though they have emerged from the stagnation of the years before the war, are yet far from being pleasant for the masses. Unemployment figures are exceedingly high. To that many causes contribute—in Berlin, local conditions arising out of Russian policies; in the Western zones, the pressure of between eight and nine million destitute immigrants from behind the Iron Curtain; and finally the policy of the Adenauer Government, which in abolishing controls and relying on "letting things run," has created a widespread distress and discomfort.

Now to stimuli of that kind different nations react differently. Some may be impelled to Communism, some to Socialism, some to social credit schemes. Germany, we say, in 1920-25, the impulse is to nationalism and militarism. It is therefore not surprising that a distinct nationalist-militarist current should be discernible there now. Evidence of it accumulates unmistakably. Recently, for instance, the "left" has been disorganised by a "leftist" work near Hanover, and the crude West German opposition to the arrangement between France and the Saar, headed by Dr. Adenauer himself, the previous

In neither case were the Allies acting high-handedly. In the case of the Saar, the British Regional Commissioner in negotiation with the management was showing the utmost readiness to exempt everything that was not war potential.

No doubt fear of further unemployment rendered the mob excitable; but it is difficult to think that all this was done by the German Nationalist and crypto-militarist realises that, if his country is some day to effect another military comeback like that under Hitler, the prime essential now is to save, on every possible pretext, every possible scrap of war potential. The mob is a useful instrument.

The Saar's status was discussed on January 22 by me. Since then nothing has occurred to modify the issue. The series of pacts signed at Paris between the French Foreign Minister and the Prime Minister of the Saar are provisional until the signature of the eventual peace treaty with Germany.

The framers of the treaty are left free to do as they see fit. There is therefore no ground for Dr. Adenauer's contention that the pacts are "juridically invalid" on the contrary, the legal position has been carefully respected.

The factual position is that owing to Russia's "cold war" against her Allies, no peace conference is even on the horizon; hence it is imperative that for the time being a working arrangement should be established. This the new pacts provide, signed at their German end by the Prime Minister of the freely elected Saar Parliament under the freely adopted Saar Constitution.

Detached from Germany

Of course, if the temporary plan conflicted sharply with the known intentions of the Western members of the future peace conference, it might be challenged. But it does not. Great Britain and the United States have not concealed their view that the Saar should permanently be as it temporarily is, detached from Germany and placed in economic union with France.

What the Nationalists in Germany resent is not any enslavement of the Saarlanders (for they remain free), but their detachment from the German State. But in fact, the detachment of the Saar is a million inhabitants will make little difference to Germany, whereas the output of its coalmines makes a great difference to France.

In the debate at Bonn (Dr. Adenauer spoke more vigorously but the general bad impression remained). Germany's public opinion has yet to realise, regarding the Saar, that it is a national asset which has been detached from Germany. The previous

LOVE AND MARRIAGE

By Andre Maurois

The fact that struck me most, in the comments of the English readers of my first article on marriage was that these answers differed in no way from what would have been those of French readers of the same article.

This is a new situation. One hundred, even 40, years ago the reactions of the two peoples would have been very different.

About 1900 the French conception of love and marriage was much more realistic than the English. The French yellow-bound novels were then considered in London as dangerous and daring.

It was in those that an old Englishman with whom I had made friends in a Sussex hotel and who liked to talk French to me, could, one morning, suddenly stop understanding me and talk only in English.

Not a Sunday language

"What's the matter?" I asked, surprised. "Have you forgotten my language during the night?" "You should realise," he said severely, "that French is not a Sunday language."

Today everything is changed. The generation of Arnold Bennett, Bernard Shaw, and H. G. Wells began the change. Aldous Huxley and Evelyn Waugh continued it. I have just read two English novels, "From the City from the Plough" and "Love in a Cold Climate." They are, to French ears, bold, outspoken books.

A second difference between the two peoples was that the French enjoyed, much more than the English, the analysis of emotions and feelings.

The English in love at least preferred silent emotions. On this point, too, the English and French have come nearer to each other.

Look at the films. "Brief Encounter," by Noel Coward, was shown in France with great success. Not one member of the Paris audiences was surprised at the way in which the characters expressed their feelings. On the contrary, they admired the discretion of the action and the brevity of the dialogue.

Cinema's great service

I should be curious to know whether French films still astonish English audiences. I have the impression that the cinema, with its vast public, helps to form and unify the customs and manners of love. It is its strength and its danger.

But if it can convince us—English, French, American, and Italian—that we are all human beings and very near to each other, it will have done a great service.

The replies and reflections of readers are of two kinds. Some add rules to those I had already listed, others object to them.

A woman may be, in fact frequently, is physically attracted by a man whose ideas are quite different from hers. She may find him charming and admire him. But if the feeling that draws

(Continued from Col. 6)

how terribly she wronged her neighbours both West and East. If the territorial and other compensations extorted by the East may seem excessive, the same cannot be said of the very modest Western claims. Blind resistance to them bespeaks calumnious stupidity. For Germany needs friends; and where save in the West can she find them on any "live and let live" basis?

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VITAL MEETING ON EUROPEAN DEFENCE

The Hague, March 24.

Military experts from 10 of the 12 Atlantic Pact nations opened here today a week's vital talks on co-ordination of their five regional plans for Western defence.

Detailed plans have already been drawn up on defence problems, a usually reliable source stated as delegates assembled from Britain, the United States, Canada, Belgium, Denmark, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Holland and Norway—all the Pact signatories except Portugal and Iceland.

HOUSE TO DEBATE SERETSE

London, March 24.

The case of Seretse Khama, exiled chief-designate of the Bantustan, will be debated in the House of Commons on Wednesday, April 5.

Though criticism will be ventilated, no vote is likely, as there will be no motion on Seretse before Parliament.

In Capetown, Dr. Daniel Malan, South African Prime Minister, did not reply directly when asked in the Union Parliament today whether his Government had communicated with the British Government on the question of Seretse Khama.

Replying to a question by Mr. S. Kahn (Africa's representative and the only Communist Member), Dr. Malan said that the matter of Seretse Khama was primarily the concern of the United Kingdom Government.

"This Government has nothing to add to the White Paper issued by the United Kingdom Government on March 22 of which a full report appeared in the South African Press."

Mr. Kahn: "Arising out of this answer does the Prime Minister say that there has been no communication between the United Kingdom Government and the United Kingdom Government?"

Dr. Malan: "My reply has already been given."

Mr. Kahn said that a direct reply had not been given to his question.

The Speaker: "A Minister is free to reply as he wishes."

The Finance Ministers of Western Union and Atlantic Pact countries are said to be considering how to fit these schemes into their budgets.

General Omar Bradley, Chairman of the United States Chiefs of Staff and head of the Atlantic Treaty Military Committee, said on arrival that American arms deliveries will soon be in full swing.

The Chairman of the French Chiefs of Staff, General Charles Leclerc, asked about American arms cargoes for France, replied, "The Russians will probably spur the French Communists to foil the unloading as much as possible, but this will not deter us from receiving these shipments."

Today's first meeting was a session of the Supply and Production Council.

It is understood to be considering reports on the way different countries can make available to the common effort their raw material, productive position and present supplies.

Cost problems are expected to be discussed in detail in London next Wednesday by the Finance Ministers of the countries concerned, ready for concrete proposals to be placed before the Defence Ministers Committee at The Hague on April 1.

Submission to highest body

The results of today's discussions, together with those of the Chiefs of Staff meeting next Tuesday, and the Defence Ministers Committee will be submitted to the Pact's highest body, the Council of Foreign Ministers, due to meet somewhere in Europe in April or May.

Later in the evening it was announced that the Military Production and Supply Board of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation had noted with approval the

progress made towards a co-ordinated production programme designed to provide for the maximum possible flow of military equipment to the armed forces of the Powers of the North Atlantic Pact.

The Foreign, Defence and Finance Ministers of the Brussels Treaty powers will meet in Brussels on April 16 and 17, it was officially announced in London.

The Ministers of the five powers—France, Britain, Belgium, Holland and Luxembourg—will discuss how the defence plans of the Treaty powers can best be financed.

Common pool

It is thought that some of the powers are not satisfied with the present payment arrangements, whereby each country has to pay for the defence of its area.

Discussion is expected to revolve around the question whether a common pool should be established and each country pay contributions according to its financial and economic resources.

It is thought in London that a redistribution of the burden of financing and supplying armaments will result from the meeting.

The five Foreign Ministers will hold separate meetings to discuss social security agreements and relations with the Council of Europe.

Mr. Ernest Bevin, Britain's Foreign Secretary, Sir Stafford Cripps, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr. Emmanuel Shinwell, Minister of Defence, will attend the meeting.—Router.

SUMATRA JOINS REPUBLIC

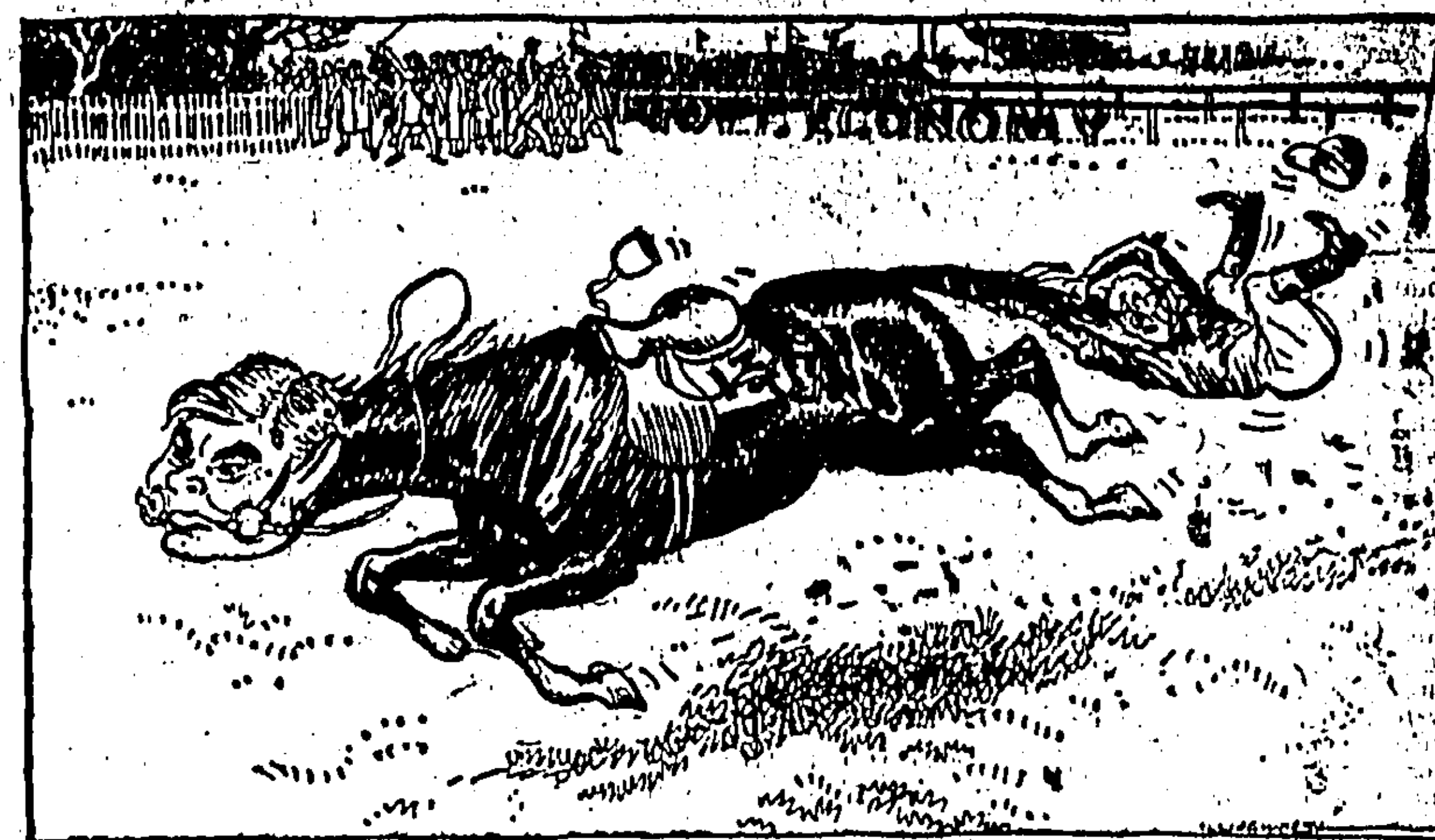
Jakarta, March 24.

The State of South Sumatra was absorbed today by the Indonesian Republic, the largest of the States in the United States of Indonesia. The change was made under a decree signed by President Soekarno.

Six other Indonesian territories were previously absorbed by the Republic under an emergency law to join the 16 smaller States with larger areas.

The earlier action welded the territories of East Java, Central Java, West Java, Padang in South Sumatra, and the islands of Madura and Sabang with the Indonesian Republic.—Associated Press.

Cleveland, March 24.
Mr. James R. Garfield, aged 84, son of President James A. Garfield and himself a Cabinet officer during the administration of President Theodore Roosevelt, died today.—Associated Press.



OFF THE COURSE

EISENHOWER WARNING ON DANGERS TO U.S.

Washington, March 24.

A warning from General Dwight D. Eisenhower says that the country has disarmed below the safety point in some directions.

A Senate Appropriations Sub-committee working on the \$13,028,000,000 annual military department money bill voted with one voice to ask him for his advice.

Concern for the state of America's preparedness was shown by other military men and legislators.

Admiral Forrest P. Sherman, Chief of Naval Operations, said in London that it would certainly be desirable from the military point of view alone to have more military strength.

General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, Air Force Chief of Staff, was reported by Senators to have informed the Appropriations Sub-committee in closed session that Air Force leaders do not consider that plans or funds for a 46-group Air Force are sufficient from a military standpoint.

Congress last year voted money for a 58-group force but President Harry Truman refused to spend it. The House Armed Services Committee approved an increase of \$187,000,000 for addition of projects of highest priority to a military public works bill already passed by the Senate.

The increase brought the authorization to a total of \$689,000,000. This is separate from the main annual defence bill for the year beginning July 1.

Ike's warning

General Eisenhower, now President of Columbia University, sounded his warning in a speech at New York last night. He said it is dangerous to trim U.S. defence so much unless all nations do the same.

General Eisenhower's summary of America's preparedness contrasted with the Defence Secretary, Mr. Louis Johnson's optimistic view expressed recently that defence preparations are sufficient up to the hour. The wartime Allied Commander in Western Europe spoke more in line with the Air Secretary, Mr. Stuart Symington's recent warnings against reduction in the U.S. payment for national security.—Associated Press.

NEW GUINEA CASE FOR THE UN?

Hollandia, March 24.
In preparation for the possible reference of the New Guinea problem to the United Nations, an eight-man delegation has been formed here. Mr. Johan Ariks is chairman and Dr. C.S.H.J. de Faraf is secretary. (The Indonesian Parliament on March 11 approved a motion asking that Indonesia's case before the United Nations should not be closed until this matter was settled.—Router.)

TALKS IN LISBON

Lisbon, March 24.
A conference to discuss joint British, Portuguese and Rhodesian policies in the administration of the Rhodesian railway was opened here yesterday by the Portuguese Foreign Minister, Jose Caeiro de Matos.—United Press.

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COST OF THE HEALTH SERVICE

London, March 24.

Britain's National Health Service will cost about £7.75 head of the population next year—a total of £351,541,000. It was disclosed today with publication of the 1950-51 Ministry of Health Estimates.

The total is £39,453,132 more than last year.

The biggest item is £226,704,100 for hospital, specialist and ancillary services. £14,822,000 more than they cost last year.

The cost of general medical, dental, pharmaceutical and supplementary ophthalmic services will be cut £691,400 to £132,220,000.

The new overall health bill, regarded by the Government as "celling" beyond which the country cannot go.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, replying to Conservative criticism of the cost of health services recently, made this statement and said that any further development in the health service would have to come out of savings elsewhere.—Router.

FRENCH SEAMEN ON STRIKE

Le Havre, March 24.

Officers and seamen of the French Merchant Navy belonging to the Communist-led Union General Confederation of Labour decided to go on strike here at 5 p.m. G.M.T. today (11 March) March 27, at 6 a.m. G.M.T. They are claiming higher wages and payment of a 3,000 franc cost of living bonus.

Socialist Union members are not taking part of the seamen's long to the Communist union, is expected that only a few ships will be able to leave or berth at Le Havre during these two days and a half.—Router.

LANDED AT THE WRONG AIRPORT

London, March 24.
The pilot of a Greek four-engine aircraft, in-bound from Athens to London, made a go-around today—but at the wrong airport.

He received landing instructions from Northolt airport, his destination, but came in instead at the Royal Air Force Hendon Field, four miles away. The RAF man tried to warn the pilot away from the restricted military base with hand signals but he was too busy obeying his radioed instructions.—Associated Press.

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BALANCE OF POWER IN BRITAIN

We in Britain have always been ready to applaud our electoral system. Truth to tell, we have perhaps been a little arrogant about it. If it had any faults, then they were but minor blemishes, blemishes, rather than defects, the blemishes.

The parliamentary majority might often be greater than the electoral verdict justified, but this did enable a government to be formed with sufficient authority to rule effectively. Other systems might reproduce the wishes of the electorate with closer mathematical accuracy, but ours at least did work.

These comfortable beliefs have now received a rude shock, and in a fair guess that in all our political parties there is some pretty hard thinking going on. Many of us had expected that the February election results would be close, but none had foreseen a majority so small as to deny effective control of the House of Commons to either side. Yet this is precisely what has happened, and for the first time since the days of universal suffrage neither of the two main parties has a sufficient margin to enact a controversial programme.

Although voting to party propaganda on either side, this is not necessarily an unmitigated disaster. The boast of our parliamentary system is that it can dip itself to any given situation. The chances are that it will do so once again, and that his House of Commons will contrive to do some useful work even in abnormal conditions.

Precarious balance

But how long can the present precarious balance be held? The answer is anybody's guess, and in a nervous time such as this, the best laid plans. Yet probably both the large parties are, at their hearts, reluctant to fight another general election until the country has had a breathing space and an opportunity to revise its decision, if it should wish to do so.

This is really sound political sense, for a second general election at an early date might well result in as narrow a verdict as the last, which could be of advantage to no one. On the other hand even a modest variation in public opinion could tilt the existing balance either way, for a high proportion of constituencies were won on a very slender margin.

I myself have fought eight electoral campaigns and I can collect none when voters of all ages and convictions have taken such a deep and eager, almost studious interest as in this struggle. You could even feel the electorate making up its mind. This may have been due to the radio broadcasts, which clearly proved to be the dominant instrument of the election.

The meetings of all the political parties were remarkably well attended, but the total audiences that—even the most popular speaker can address during the whole campaign—is a mere fraction of those who will listen to a national leader over the air.

Men and women came to the public meetings with the background of radio debate by the principal party leaders. And so it was that the audiences were easily able to follow and to assess the value of a speaker's arguments, to put pointed and relevant questions, and to judge whether the answers were valid or not.

This raised national discussion to a level above anything I have ever known. The elections were sincerely seeking for the truth, were party scores interested than but little, while personal abuse of opponents was generally resented.

New ordeal—TV

In these days, scientific developments increasingly determine the whole course of political controversy. We are far from the

end of that chapter. Candidates will have a new ordeal to face when television comes into its own, as it very soon must. Further technical arts will have to be mastered. The thought of visual electioneering on a national scale is enough to daunt the most experienced campaigners. It did daunt us this time.

In the depth of winter, 84 per cent of the voters went to the polls, and this figure does not allow for sickness, removal, or death since the last register six months ago. This is certainly a record in Britain for the days of universal suffrage. Of nearly 20 million votes cast, little more than two and a half million went to Liberal candidates. Only nine of them were elected, although the Liberal party had contrived to put nearly 500 standard-bearers into the field.

Under British electoral law, every candidate has to deposit £150 at nomination. This regulation was introduced some years ago, and lays down that any candidate who does not secure one-eighth of the votes polled must forfeit his deposit. More than 300 Liberals paid this penalty. And so it was that the Liberal party, for all its immortal tradition and proud history, met disaster at the polls.

The consequences of this defeat must be still further to discourage the remaining members of the party and to prompt them to examine afresh the policies of their rivals. The deferred election at Manchester, with its exiguous Liberal poll, appears to confirm this tendency. If it persists, the Liberal party as we have known it will not be able to stand before the electorate as even a shadowy alternative government.

Conjectures

The failure of the Liberals has inevitably brought in its train all manner of statistical conjectures as to the precise effect that Liberal intervention had upon the final verdict. In my view, all that is certain is that Britain is once again showing a preference for a two party political system. Between these two main parties is a wide, and maybe a widening, ideological gap.

But what will be the influence of the election on Britain's position abroad, on her ability to play a full part both within the Commonwealth and Empire family and on the wider world stage? I do not consider that our friends overseas have any cause for alarm.

We have never had a bipartisan foreign policy as the United States has done. Which ever party forms the government represents us at every international conference. As against this, the broad lines of our foreign policy have displayed a certain continuity, and its principles are not challenged by either great party. They were never an issue during our election campaign, although the measures to give effect to them certainly were.

Which the same could be written of all the years since the war. It is no doubt true that this underlying continuity of foreign policy has been made easier by the fact that the principal leaders of both parties were colleagues in the Coalition Cabinet which conducted the war. And so there is a welcome tendency to seek the greatest measure of agreement in foreign policy rather than to make party capital out of its complexities.

This at least has been our endeavour while we have been His Majesty's Opposition. Meanwhile, the casualties of the general election have been most severe among Mr. Bevin's critics within his own party, and our two Communist Members of Parliament have lost their seats.

By the Rt. Hon. Anthony Eden, M.C., M.P.

Extremism was certainly not popular at the polls, and this should gratify those who wish to see our foreign policy broadly based and commanding national support.

No weakening

While, therefore, there will be no parade of understanding across the floor of the House, there certainly seems no present reason for any weakening of our country's authority in foreign affairs. My own belief is that the even balance of parties will in fact encourage a firm and even imaginative approach to Commonwealth and world issues.

All parties are united in a sincere desire to secure peace, and no one dissents from the view that this is the principal task that confronts us. The immediate outlook is pretty bleak. Soviet Russia shows no sign of abandoning the cold war that she has been waging since 1946. The problems created by the atomic and the hydrogen bomb harass and perplex all peace-loving nations.

With such horrors threatening us, I would not myself exclude from examination any reasonable means of approaching Soviet leaders, at an appropriate moment to try to work out some agreement upon these matters. This is no policy of appeasement; I have never in my life trodden that road. It is a line of action that might possibly yield new ground upon which Soviet Russia could elect to co-operate with the nations of the West. The circumstances which govern the conduct of international affairs are constantly changing. It would be foolish if we failed to seize every advantage which growing union in the West bestows. But it would be criminal not to continue to build up the strength of that union as the first priority of our own foreign policy.

Economic policy

I suspect that some of those countries who have deplored the effect of the election upon our ability to play a full part in world affairs are in truth thinking less of foreign policy than of economic policy. It is true that the international authority of any nation depends upon its economic strength.

In the last analysis, our usefulness as an ally depends as much upon our economic as upon our military efficiency, for the defence commitments of a nation in the modern world place a staggering burden upon its economic resources.

The husbanding and future development of these resources are matters upon which there are, of course, sharp differences between the two great parties. But these are questions for settlement across the floor of the House in the cut and thrust of domestic debate.

Meanwhile, the results of the election have in no way changed the nature of the giant problems that confront the world, nor modified the effort that is required of all of us to grapple with them. The need to show wise statesmanship has never been greater than it is today in Britain, as in other lands.

I believe that what kindly critics have called the "political genius" of our people can serve once again to surmount the difficulties and dangers that confront us all. I have faith that it can make a contribution also to the wider service of mankind.

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"And last, but not least, this is Professor Weinburger. I managed to hide the Professor in a little corner till you arrived!"

Cut the cocktail party

By John Kirk Nelson

A man came to see me the other day whom I have not met for 20 years—a lonely man who has never married and who lives by himself on a very modest income.

I pulled his leg about his unsociability, but he took my remarks very seriously.

He was very happy, he said. He had got all sorts of interests. He had taken to studying languages by the gramophone—his record system; he read a good deal; he puzzled over chess problems; he had got — of all delightful hobbies—a model theatre. Like Miss Garbo, he preferred to be alone.

Myself, I am very fond of my fellow men and easily bored with my own company, and I find it difficult to imagine this sort of isolated existence.

Hunted look

"But surely," I said to him, "you have friends?" He shrugged his shoulders. "Don't they ever invite you to see them?"

My innocent question had a remarkable effect on him. The sorely disappointed look from his eyes. "They ask me," he said deliberately, his voice throwing inverted commas round the operative words, "to cocktail parties."

Now, gregarious as I am, I think my friend has got something there. There is very little to be said in favour of cocktail parties, if anything at all—and yet they flourish and they multiply, since a cocktail party is inevitably a challenge for a return of hospitality.

Nobody ought to enjoy these parties; they are expensive and physically exhausting to the hosts and frustrating and physically injurious to the guests.

The very first intimation of a cocktail party unerringly strikes a false note. You are informed that Mr. and Mrs. Smith are going to be "at home" on such and such a date. Geographically speaking this will prove to be true—but for the occasion their home will be turned into a torturing, travesty of its normal self.

And what about those glutinous delicacies that are self-condemned by the name "cocktail dainties"? What witch's formula is substituted for the cookery book?

But there it is: I am a weak character, and on my mantelpiece are two invitations to cocktail parties next week, and I shall go to both. I shall take a periscope with me so that at least I may be able to see the one or two people in the room that I shall want to speak to—but shall never reach.

Overdone

The best excuses for murderers—crime fiction writers please note—come from the Sudan.

Ray Shohet, correspondent in Khartoum, reports that the favourite defence is: "I thought it was a wild animal, sir," uttered by natives in the dock with much the same nonchalant naïveté as a charwoman saying, "It broke off in my hand, mum."

This plea was trotted out just a little too frequently in Bahr el Ghazal.

In one case it was alleged that a woman gathering caterpillars for her dinner was mistaken for a wild beast in the grass and speared. In the second, involving the death of a young girl, the accused claimed that he thought she was a young baboon eating his grain.

This crime was referred to a magisterial inquiry and it transpired that the incident occurred in broad daylight, on a plot of land that had been under ground-nut cultivation for a year.

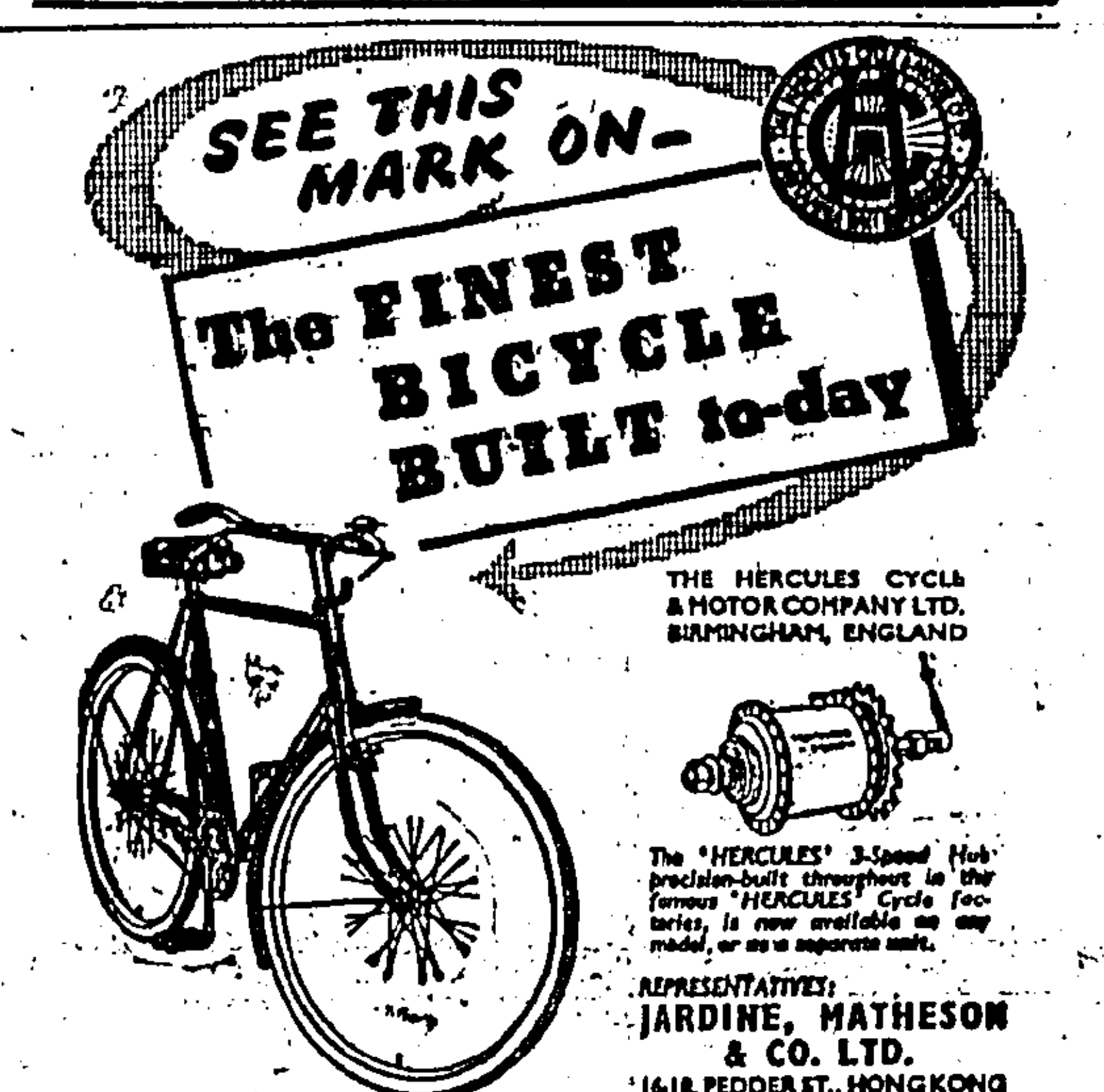
The artificiality of the drinks and the food, the perhaps more serious, if only because the physical injury caused by both is more immediately apparent than the moral harm which may be caused by the artificiality of behaviour.

I am very fond of a good drink, but where (except at cocktail parties) can you find such outlandish mixtures? Cocktail parties have turned perfectly normal men and women into latterday Borgias, poisoning up new poisons in the kitchen.



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Fabian of the Yard--No. 19:

THE BLACK BUTTERFLY'S KILLER LEFT ONE CLUE

By Superintendent Robert Fabian

The first £5 note young Jim Mahoney ever possessed was given to him reluctantly one Saturday lunch time by the bookmaker in the local.

In 1939, a liver was big money. "I'm going to see life on this!" Mahoney's voice slurred with quacking impediment against the left roof of his mouth. His pale laughter, "Spend it on beer, Jim, lad!"

But that evening he sat at a night club bar in London's glittery West End. The £5 note cracked in his pocket. He was 23 years old, his wages £3 a week.

He sipped coloured drinks. A beautiful girl with amber-brown eyes and black hair like shoulder-length taffeta curtains crooned with the five-piece band. She was billed "The Black Butterfly". Young Mahoney, his courage boosted by drink, sent her a drink.

Several hours later Jim Mahoney went home to Brixton by night workers' bus, gold and silver bubbles bursting before his spellbound eyes.

He had a date for lunch at the costly Casa Roja Restaurant with a real night club singer!

To Mary Heath lunch was breakfast. In the cool light of day at the Casa Roja bar she viewed Jim Mahoney more sensibly.

"You mustn't spend all your week's wages on one meal," she told him gently. He went white, shamefaced. Then he produced his precious £5 note. "Walter—a bottle of gin!" he demanded. The girl was not deceived.

He took out a clumsy knife

"Anyway, I must fly!" To soften the blow she added: "You can see me home if you like."

They sat dumb side by side in the taxi. At the door of her flat he blurted: "Let's have a drink!"

He ripped the tin foil from the gin bottle. "Here!" She shrugged. "I'd rather not, thanks."

"Not good enough, eh?" His slurred voice quavered savagely. Something red and vicious stirred in his brain. Mary Heath's taxis, cocktails, restaurants—became hurtful symbols of all he would never possess. He took out his clumsy workman's clasp-knife. Her amber eyes widened. She backed into the room, lifted manacled hands to defend herself.

That evening, as the night illuminations of Piccadilly cascaded and sparkled in the last crisp February before the war, Mr. Paul Diaz, by trade a saxophonist, paid his nightly call to collect the Rainbow Club band's star vocalist.

He hesitated, discovering her white and gilt door wide open. "I say—anybody at home?"

Silence inside the warm flat. The light was on. He knocked, called: "Hey—Mary!" Still, silence. Puzzled he entered.

He had just time to sniff a fragrance of perfume, glimpse a girl's body, marked with knife wounds, sprawled on the carpet—then the light went out!

Mr. Diaz scrambled through the white door, down the blue-carpeted stairs, along Dover Street, into Vine Street Police Station: "A murder! I want to report a Murder!"

Search in the murder flat

When I got to Dover Street the white door was still ajar. I planted a uniformed constable impassive on the stairway and flicked the light-switch.

Nothing happened. My torch flitted around the apartment. A divan bed—green brocade couch—fawn carpet—and there, the body!

The girl's slender white neck, delicate arms, lay beneath fronds of disordered black hair. Deep knife-gashes. Torn clothes scattered around her.

I located the meter inside the wardrobe, and fed it the necessary shilling.

The dead girl's handbag, on the table, held money and a silver cigarette-case. Also, an uncashed week's pay-check from the Rainbow Club. It seemed one night-club songstress was worth approximately two detective-inspectors of Scotland Yard!

The police surgeon arrived, took off his overcoat, thick gloves, knelt beside the body, wiped his clinical thermometer.

"Dead about four hours," he said.

The normal heat of a live human body is 98.4 degrees. Take the temperature of a corpse, subtract it from 98.4 and divide the result by 1.5—the result is the length of time in hours the person has been dead.

In working out his calculations the expert allows for the temperature of the place where the body is found.

It takes about 12 hours, in my experience, for a body to feel cold when you touch it. Rigor mortis begins gradually, is usually complete in 10 hours, remains about 40 hours. These things policemen learn.

So the "Black Butterfly" died four hours ago.

The echo in a girl's face

Fingerprint experts came, squirted little grey clouds of powder from instruments like old-fashioned motor-horns, unavailingly.

Inspector Percy Law, the Yard's photographer, manoeuvred behind the silent white explosions of flash-bulbs.

I went on to the Rainbow club. The proprietor told me: "Mary Heath—she sung with my musicians. I don't know much

about her." He took my arm. "But I think her sister is in the bar."

I looked towards the rainbow-lit cocktail bar where a dark-haired girl perched, fashionable heels clinking the bar-stool's chromium rungs. My scalp prickled. Her face echoed the dead girl in Dover Street.

In Vine Street police station, still sick from the shock of Mary's death, the sister bravely searched her memory. How did Mary usually spend Sunday? Who were her friends? Did she have any appointments that day? Which of her friends knew her well enough to call at her flat?

At each new name detective officers turned up collars against the February night, went out and—after due while—came glumly back, to shake their heads.

At five a.m. I left Mary's sister with subordinates, stumped thoughtfully back to Dover Street. I seemed to be getting nowhere. In the flat lights burned. A young detective was on duty.

I find the only thread

There seemed no inspiration in the room. Nothing had been disturbed.

The Black Butterfly's ornaments, small toys, decorated the mantelpiece near my elbow. A rabbit with big ears, a woolly

Scottie, a Dresden china figure, I regarded them blankly. They gave me no hint, no light. Yet somewhere in that room there must be, I felt, the first thread of a clue.

I opened the wardrobe doors, each with large oval mirror. Coats, dresses, faintly turned, Mary's writing-desk. No diary, no address book.

By the hearth a small green wicker waste-basket contained a screwed black ball of tin foil.

I picked it out, straightened the tin foil half-interestedly. It was from a gin bottle.

"Where does she keep her gin?" The young detective blushed, indignant. "I'm sure I don't know, sir!"

I smiled. "All right, sonny. Just wondered if you'd seen the bottle this came from." I showed him the tin foil.

He hadn't. Together we searched the cupboards and the shelves of the little neat kitchen. No gin bottles. No liquor bottles of any kind.

A gleam of an idea, faint as bog mist, started to grow in my mind. I walked back to Vine Street, thoughtfully. The cold London sky was beginning to silver into dawn.

In the stove-warmed CID room sat Mary's sister. "I must go home!" She was almost sobbing. "I'll die if I don't sleep!"

"What did Mary do for breakfast?" I asked her.

The sister shook her head wearily. "Mary never had breakfast—she had her first meal."

"Where?"

She named a couple of restaurants near Dover Street. Only one, the Casa Roja, held a licence to stock spirits. One of the detectives was already alertly thumbing through the thick "Restaurants Book" from the CID reference shelves.

"Casa Roja proprietor lives on the premises sir. Shall I knock him up?"

I nodded. Time was important. Sleep—his, mine, hers, theirs—

could wait. "Ask him if she was there for lunch—did she buy a bottle of gin? Who was with her?"

In about 10 minutes he returned. "No, she didn't have lunch there. Only a tomato-juice at the bar. But there was a man with her who bought a bottle of gin—he had some sort of defect in his speech."

I saw Mary's sister start. "What is it?" I said, sharply. She hesitated.

"I was just wondering—last night at the Rainbow Club she was talking to a man—he had a what-you-call-it—a cleft palate. I didn't like him."

Who was he? She didn't know. What was he like? She was vague.

"Come with me to the Criminal Record Office," I said.

She wilted. "Can't it wait until tomorrow?"

"It's tomorrow now," I told her.

In that long, efficient room, the Criminal Record Office, is the dossier of almost every crook in Europe. The filing system is intricate.

If a man is a burglar, has a deformed foot, a trick of crumbling his table bread into pellets, he will be filed under each of these things, and half a dozen besides, as well as by his own name, aliases, height and age.

Round-up in the dawn

File 419 was what I wanted. It held about 800 photographs, full-face and profile. All men with cleft palates. My hunch was that a man who could commit such sudden violent murder might well have given vent to some previous dark outburst that had brought him into the hands of the police. It was a slender chance.

I put the heavy record file in front of Mary's sister. Her head drooped. She looked listless, ill. It was after-effects of shock. I roused her.

"Here, in this book," I said "may be the photograph of the man who murdered your sister!"

She turned the heavy pages dutifully, but without much hope.

Suddenly she gave a thin squeak, pointed at a photograph, drew back her finger as though the very page was hot—then slid faintly to the floor.

"A glass of water," I called hastily. I was busy phoning my chief, Detective-Superintendent Beveridge.

A milkman, visiting houses in a Brixton Street like a bee along a foxglove, saw our police car halt, heard our insistent knocking at one of the grey little artisan doors.

Jim Mahoney, collarless, sleeves rolled up, face soap-sudded, towel in hand, opened the door. Breakfast was sizzling, fragrant in the kitchen behind him.

He stood for an instant, realising. Then dully, bewilderedly, he wiped the crusted white suds from his half-shaved cheeks and said to Superintendent Beveridge: "The knife—is upstairs."

He was sentenced to death at the Old Bailey by Mr. Justice Humphreys on March 8, 1939, and died in Broadmoor Lunatic Asylum after being reprieved, on July 2, 1940.

NEXT WEEK: Fabian tells of the swindler who fled to the Continent with £25,000—and was beaten up in Spain as a spy.

NEW YORK LETTER



It is perhaps as well that the boys and girls of Burdick Junior High School at Stamford, Connecticut, spend as much time at their television sets as they do at their school desks. For otherwise there will soon be nothing to stop them prospecting for uranium in the back yard, digging for plutonium at the local golf club and putting father to shame whenever he launches into an after-dinner dissertation on the problems of the universe.

For this year any small character of six, seven, 11 or 17 will be able to walk down to the local store and order what the trade calls an "Atomic Energy Set."

Instruction book!

This set comprises a Geiger counter (we used them to detect the Russian explosion), a set of radioactive minerals, a fluorescent screen on which Charles de Bessie can study the disintegration of this radioactive material, and, of course, a book of instructions on the "peaceful" uses of atomic energy.

This junior "Harwell-in-your-Home" is only one of the startling features of the annual Toy Fair. Every year buyers come to the big city and occupy six or seven floors of one of the better hotels.

Guests are cleared out of these rooms, and strange and weird noises, klaxon horns and bells ring out for seven excited days, and a lot of money changes hands. As America is probably the most toy-happy land in the world I went down to have a look at this year's offerings. The motto of the fair itself, "Every Child Should Have An American Toy," set the keynote.

There were "working" rumba bands, mother-daughter dolls, babies sculptured from four-day originals. There were walking-talking-radios, plastic jet aircraft, doctor-nurse sets of operating-table instruments, unbreakable Christmas trees and last-minute, life-size models of the Oklahoma Leopard who loved freedom.

Sheer fantasy

There were scale-model cars of actual makes, operated by remote control, and fitted with working repair sets and tyre jacks.

In fact, there was so much sheer fantasy I was surprised, amazed and somehow frightened at the sight of a perfectly prosaic dashboard leaning against the door of Room 1145.

I asked the Sales Director if Americans were at all interested in darts as she was played in England.

But after assuring me that every real American loved darts with an abiding passion the Director, Mr. Rosholm, admitted quietly that the National Champion of the U.S. by name Mr. Harry Robinson, was just about as good as the champion of a Camden Town or Darlington local. And apart from Mr. Robinson, who could evidently spike George Washington's eye from a dollar bill at 15 feet, there weren't too many other players.

Mr. Rosholm said there were "inter-tavern" leagues in some big cities, and that on some boards the numbers did run 20-1-18, and so on. But apart from that, regionalism had crept into the sport.

But North West and the West they like a four-foot board. In Pennsylvania, Bucks County in particular, they like them three feet. Everybody likes to make up their own games, their own rules. That's why we sell so many different boards.

As hard as possible

I looked at the board-packed shelves. Some boards were huge, and diamond, others were minute and circular. Other highly coloured items were dressed like baseball pitchers or panthers.

"For these games," said Mr. Rosholm, "you stand some 20 feet away and take these very big darts. Then you wind up, see, and throw your dart as hard as you can to strike out the batter or kill the panther; got it?"

It has taken some time to get back to the Burdick Junior High School at Stamford, Connecticut, where it is possible to see these Atomic Energy sets. The fact really is, that the students do spend as much time at television as they do at school.

The teachers conducted a survey, and it showed that 79.8 per cent of their attendance watch television on a regular basis; 20 per cent visited neighbours who had sets. The 8 per cent represented youngsters who waited outside television windows at nights to watch "sales" exhibitions.

TV rules the home

In the suburbs of New York City, parents are HAVING to buy TV sets for the sake of the children's prestige at school. It is more than a craze. It is obsession.

To keep their children happy many families are setting up a room to conform with the Dopey or Hopalong Cassidy or the other small fry TV hero. Others have installed sets by dining tables, to the complete extinction of conversation. But if this shadow of Stamford or for that matter the Sut Coldfield, is lengthening over our fair land, listen to Mr. Jose Francisco, the headmaster of Burdick.

"Television has increased child's interest in affairs outside home and the school. Figures have meaning for educator, the parent and broadcaster alike."

So it seems to be an open question whether increased wages and community consciousness the breasts of the young y outbalance what is, to my mind, the utter ruin of the family evening.

Names in lights

CANON ARTHUR HAYDEN, vicar of St. Nicholas, Warwick arrived here to take over the pulpit of Holy Cross Protestant Episcopal Church, Hatfield, N. Jersey, for six months. The Belfast-born Rector of Holy Cross will sail for Southampton on a ship to Warwick to take over the pulpit at St. Nicholas.

MAYOR O'DWYER of water short New York, is going ahead with plans for man-made, no last week he nominated prominent scientists to advise Nobel Prize-winner DR. IRVING LANGMUIR, the leading expert in the "dry ice" theory. O'Dwyer is also preparing a Budget and D-Day for Operation Club-burst.

RODNEY ACKLAND, the playwright, is thinking of his dramatization of BOMBER MAUGHAM'S "Before the Part to Broadway."

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FRESH AIR IN PARLIAMENT

By Charles E. Gayton

Looking at the packed benches on both sides of this new House of Commons I reflected that nobody can say, truculently, as was said by a Minister in 1940: "We are the masters now." For the first time for many years the House is not dominated by an all-powerful Executive.

If there are disadvantages in this, there are compensating advantages. Britons need a rest from the flood of legislation—time to think, discuss and examine. It is not altogether a bad thing that Parliament and the country should, for a short while, have the opportunity to look objectively at what has been done in such a tearing hurry, and above all to try to make a common constructive approach to the problems before the country. A great economic struggle still faces Britain and there is a strict time limit within which to win it. What will happen to the contesting parties if we lose it is far less important than what will happen to the country.

Travelling about the country during the election one was impressed by two things: a sense of foreboding, and a baffled doubt among ordinary people as to how the tremendous difficulties of our time can be overcome. Offered a choice between Socialism and non-Socialism, they rejected the first. Notwithstanding the vote on the Opposition's amendment on Iron and Steel, Socialism cannot in practice be pressed forward by legislation in this Parliament.

What now? Two rival sets of statesmen, almost equally balanced in the votes they command, face each other across the floor of the House of Commons. The opportunity is theirs, and the country watches how they use it.

A Condition of virtual stalemate in the House of Commons creates many difficulties and uncertainties. Procedure is slowed down. It is not possible to drive controversial measures through at a steady gallop, as was done in 1945-49.

Such business must be taken on the floor of the House, because it is impossible to make full use of the Standing Committee system, which was abused in the late Parliament in order to accelerate the advance of Socialism. The Standing Committee is a microcosm of the House, and a majority of six cannot be projected into it to give the Government a working majority.

A rigid discipline is necessarily imposed on Members. They must attend untiringly to Parliamentary business. The party whips demand absolute loyalty. There is, of course, disadvantage in the slower working of the legislative machine, but the House of Commons now has the chance to reassert itself as the national forum, to exert that effective supervision and ultimate control of affairs which is an integral part of Parliamentary democracy.

For the past 11 years this vital authority has been seriously impaired. During the war this was inevitable. But it was continued into the peace. Debate was curtailed. The Parliamentary machine was raced and strained to maintain a tremendous, and in many important respects an ill-considered, legislative output.

The Government having lost dictatorial power, the back-bencher now comes into his own. What is known as Private Members' Time—the right of the back benches conferred by ballot, to move resolutions on Wednesdays, and submit private Bills on Fridays—was only partly restored last year after being in abeyance for 10 years. This provision for private Members has been criticised on the ground that it enables any crank who is lucky in the ballot to waste the time of the House on trivial or impracticable proposals.

So it may, but it has also enabled issues to be discussed and measures to be passed which, otherwise, might never have been ventilated, or put on the Statute Book. For example, the late Miss Eleanor Rathbone's advocacy of children's allowances and Sir Alan Herbert's measure reforming the divorce law.

There are many others. The Government of the day holds no monopoly of wisdom and understanding. The House of Commons has much knowledge and experience, drawn from all classes, and in so far as this is not tapped democracy is impoverished.

One of the first things to which the new House might well address itself, therefore, is the full restoration of Private Members' Time. It is to be discussed between the parties, though restoration may not be practicable until essential financial business, delayed by the election, has been disposed of. Worthwhile, non-controversial subjects for attention in this Parliament, if it survives long enough, may well be discussed if private Members are again allowed to submit their ideas for consideration.

The modest and motley list of innocuous Bills foreshadowed in the King's Speech by no means covers the field of useful non-controversial legislation. For instance, reform of the law of libel is long overdue, and there are serious defects in the Rent, Restriction and Town and Country Planning Acts which, though they raise party issues, might be capable of fair compromise.

Finally, but most important of all, there should now be time and opportunity to examine constructively the working of the nationalised industries, the administration of the costly Health services, which seems to have got completely out of financial control, the Defence system and its rising cost.

Statesmen and parties differ about what has been done. Some of it cannot be undone. But does not the fact that the measures so far applied give no assurance of success, and have not satisfied the country, and the fact that neither their authors nor their opponents have now the Parliamentary power to pursue or change them, strengthen the case for co-operative consideration? Whether it takes or ignores such an opportunity may well be the test by which this Parliament will be judged.

OLD-FASHIONED COSH-CURE

By A HARLEY STREET CONSULTANT

Lord Chief Justice Goddard voiced the thoughts of many peoples when he hinted at the Old Bailey that it would be better if flogging were again legalised in Britain.

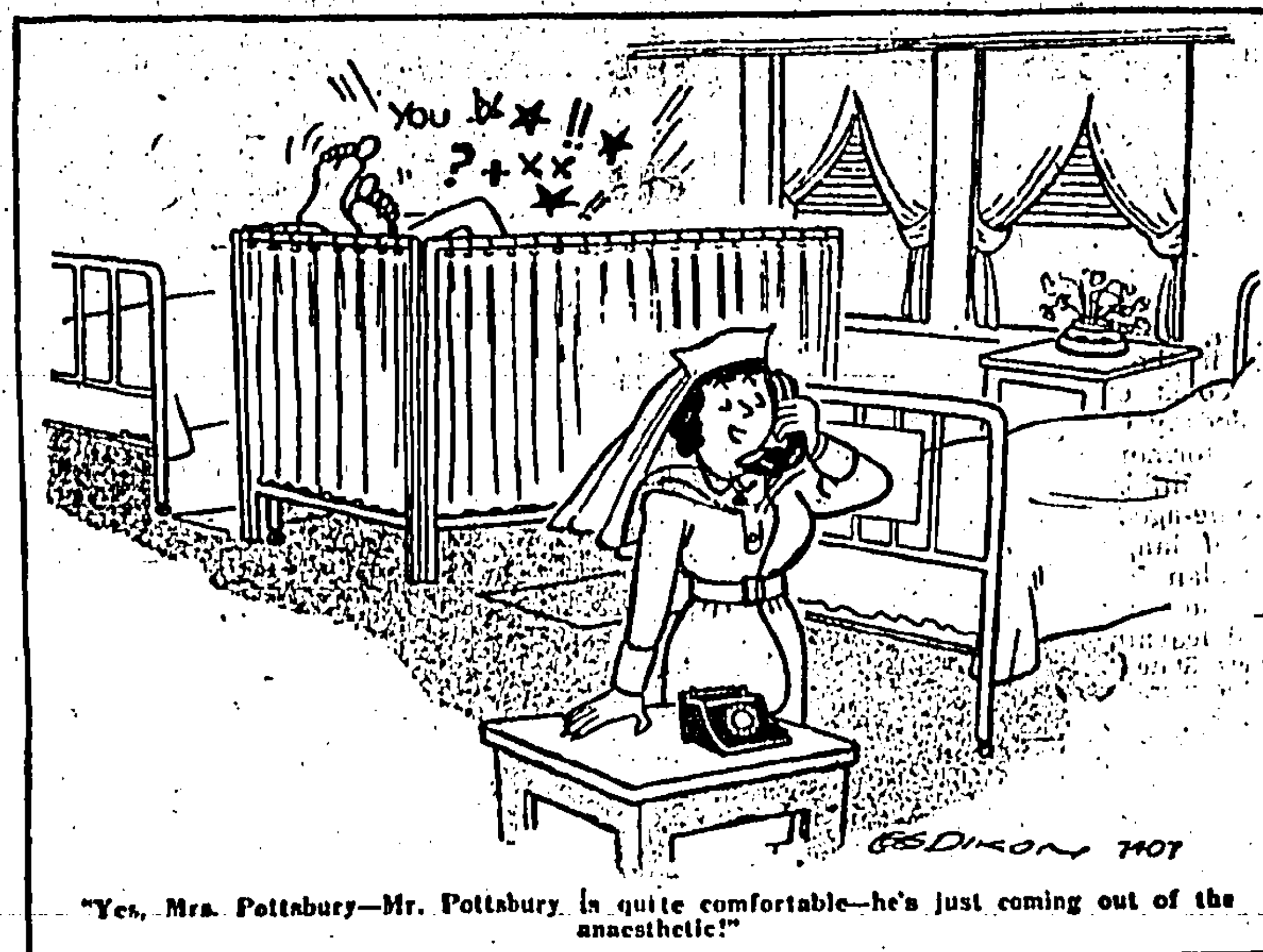
To some people lawful flogging appears a terrible thing. But the "cat" was administered only to those medically fit enough to stand it. However much a prisoner deserved a whipping, it was never given if the prison doctor considered the man unfit to take the punishment.

Before the abolition of flogging the number of strokes of birch or "cat" ordered varied with the offence; but it was rarely more than 20.

What effect do those 20 strokes have on a man?

The physical effect, while both immediate and lasting, naturally varies with the severity of the whipping.

About the psychological aspect there is much controversy. Some think it leaves a permanent ill effect on the character. But in



Unmasking the phantom terror of the sky

Back-room boys of British Overseas Airways Corporation are well on their way to finding an answer to the greatest natural hazard in aviation—the dreaded cumulo-nimbus clouds.

The thunderstorms lurking in the hearts of these omnibus, black, anvil-topped monsters, often towering to a height of 80,000 feet, are feared by all pilots.

These hidden storms are violent enough to destroy the largest and most powerful aircraft. A sailing ship in the grip of a hurricane has a smooth passage compared with a plane trapped in the shattering, swirling turbulence of these aerial maelstroms.

Using a radar device similar to that employed by RAF night-fighters to detect enemy bombers during the war, BOAC's Operational Development Unit has been carrying out trials in the Singapore area, where the thunderstorms are most frequent.

The trials are the first step towards perfecting a radar set light enough to be installed in a passenger-carrying aircraft, that will warn the pilot he is approaching a cumulo-nimbus

clouds and allow him to alter course early enough to avoid them.

Real danger

The principal dangers which an aircraft has to combat in the thunder clouds are severe turbulence, hail, ice and lightning, but the one that really counts is turbulence—gusts and draughts that batter the plane and toss it about in the storm centres like a cork in a ranging sea.

The sledge-hammer blows of the high-velocity gusts, often

By Richard Norton

strong enough to give passengers and crew the impression of collision with another aircraft, can cause structural failures, and if these are aggravated by a pilot's misjudgment of the controls the result may be disintegration of the aircraft.

Ranking with these as a flying hazard are the vertical downdraughts that can pluck the aircraft from the pilot's control and drag it downwards at the dizzy rate of 8,000 feet a minute.

'Lift shaft'

The internationally-accepted safety height when flying over high ground is 2,000 feet, and this can be lost in a matter of seconds when the aircraft is in a cumulo-nimbus "lift shaft."

Snow, ice, hail and lightning add to the dangers of a flight through the thunder clouds, and although these are dismissed as lesser hazards compared with the dangers from turbulence, hailstones up to three inches in diameter have been reported (from the United States, of course).

How would you fancy flying through a deluge of cricket balls? When the plane is already flying at you more than twice as fast as Harold Larwood ever bowled?

Fortunately, cumulo-nimbus clouds are comparatively rare. Except in tropical areas, their position can usually be predicted by the weather man, and the aircraft routed to give them a wide berth.

Only safeguard

In the tropics, however, these clouds build up so quickly that visual recognition by the pilot, followed by a detour at a respectful distance, is the only safeguard.

Even in less lethal cloud or on night flights, visual recognition is impossible. The plane is in the grip of the storm before avoid-

ing action can be taken, and, once in, the pilot can only go on and fight it out.

During the war many unexplained crashes and disappearances of RAF aircraft in the tropics were attributed to flights through "cu-nim." I have seen a plane trying to take a short cut through thunder clouds while the rest of us went the long way home. We got there, they did not.

No civil airliner is definitely known to have been destroyed in cumulo-nimbus. The superb skill and experience of the airline pilot would generally get him safely through, and at best, the flight would be an unpleasant experience for the passengers. Nevertheless, the danger of destruction does exist.

Experts baffled

Avoiding cumulo-nimbus is a problem that has long worried the airlines and baffled the experts. The trials carried out by BOAC may prove to be an important step towards the solution.

A hydra flying-bomb with a radar transmitter mounted in the storm centres. The radar beam, sweeps the sky ahead of the plane, and if cumulo-nimbus clouds are in its path the position of the "hard" thunder storm cores is reflected on a cathode ray "television" screen. The navigator then alters course to avoid them.

The first report issued by BOAC shows that the work done so far has been encouragingly successful. Storm centres 40 miles away have been detected. This is a more than adequate warning.

The tests have also proved that flights through storm areas can be made smoothly and safely, if the cumulo-nimbus clouds are skirted by half a mile.

Air safety

BOAC stress that this is an interim report only; a great deal of work remains to be done before the equipment can be perfected for airline use.

The good work goes on—and it is only part of the research and development which help to place BOAC technically in the front rank of the world's airlines. All this contributes to your safety in the air, and flying is fast becoming one of the safest means of travel. You doubt it? The figures speak for themselves.

Last year more than 270,000 people crossed the Atlantic by air without mishap. And statistics, after examining the records of airline pilots, have just calculated that, assuming they fly an average of 1,000 hours per year, the risk of a fatal accident is one in 300 years.

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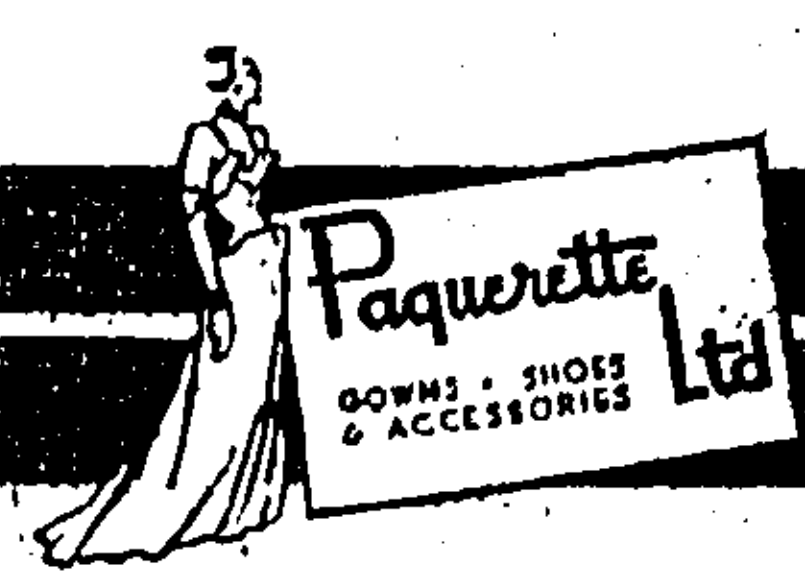
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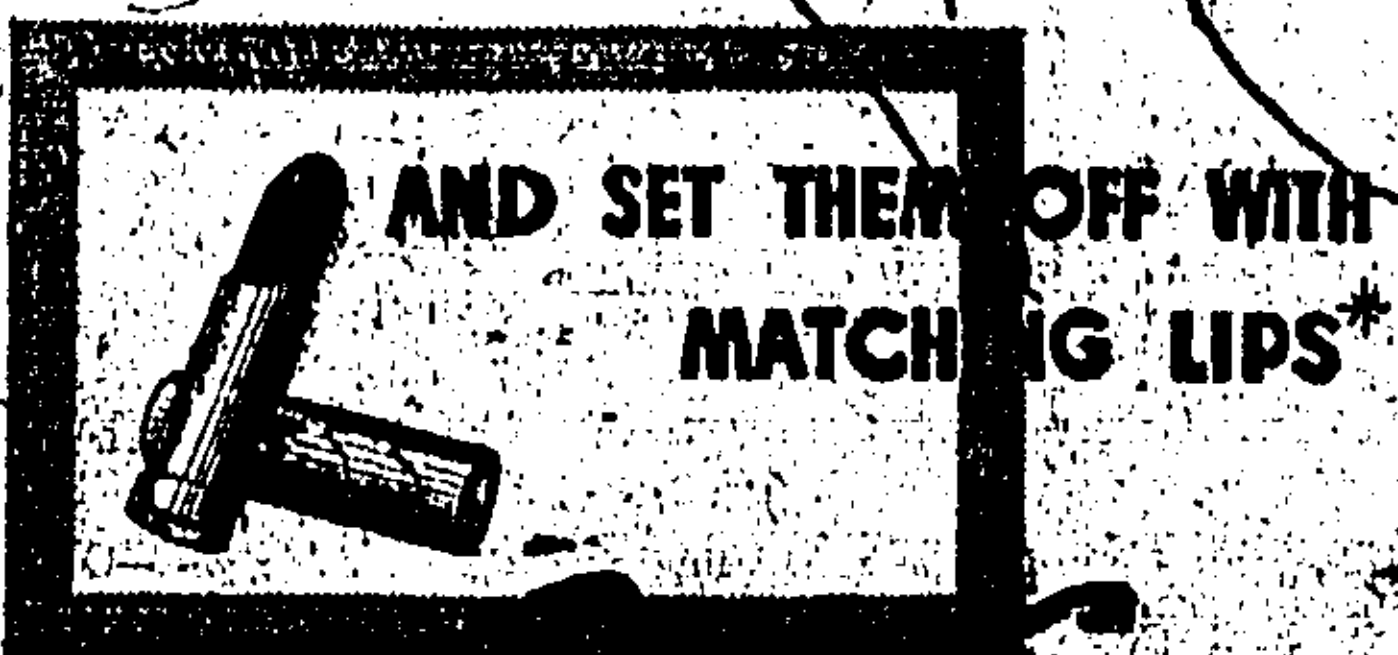
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Between Ourselves

SPRING SILKS IN NEW STYLES

By JANET MARTIN

Tie silks for afternoon frocks made their first appearance nearly two years ago. They have become one of those happy fashions which become generally accepted and enjoy a long spell of popularity, for this year, there are more tie silks than ever to be seen in the spring collections.

The small, meticulous designs of these charming silks make them extremely adaptable to changing styles. They can be crisply tailored or softly feminine. They lend an air of quality and elegance which is lost in larger, bolder patterns.

This spring there are some delightful models combining tie silks in print-and-plain. A navy frock with small pattern in green, gold and dull red has a short jacket in plain navy corded tie silk. The frock has the new high neck, with loose tie-bow, very short, cuffed sleeves and soft, unpressed folds in the front of the skirt. The little jacket, with three-quarter dolman sleeves, has roll collar and turn-back cuffs in print to match the frock, and waistcoat-cut front.

Two new American models suggest further ideas in this partnership of print and plain. One features a frock in toast brown, printed honey and black, with a slim, separate overskirt in plain black silk, which is tied around the waist. Diagonal folds stitched in at the waistband hold the front edges apart to reveal the printed frock skirt beneath—and the overskirt, of course, has possibilities for several other partnerships.

Button-through style

The other is a very unusual button-through style in peacock blues and greens, with black. This time, the plain black is a narrow silk skirt, buttoning right down the front and worn underneath. The buttons from neck to waist, skirt gathered softly at the sides, is left open down the front, with several inches between the edges to allow the buttoned line of the black underskirt to show. There is a narrow, stitched belt of the black silk material.

Plants are news again too. They appear in all-round, knife pleated skirts with neat, self belts, beneath very simply cut bodices. And many of them are made from those pure silk prints which plant so well.

Paisley prints have a very special appeal for some of us, and there are plenty of these, in new, bright turquoise, copper and tomato shades as well as the soft lavender-blue-grey mixtures which used to mean Paisley as much as the pattern.

Important sleeves

For afternoon wear, important sleeves are very much in evidence—sleeves that bell out from sloping, dropped shoulder lines, elbow length, or narrowing sharply just below the elbow. These much-admired sleeves postulate a slim skirt for contrast...with slight tapering, slender folds, or a swing at the back which leaves the front silhouette straight and narrow.

For those who prefer a fuller skirt, there is a new movement for fullness below the hipline. Dior shows a number of these models in his latest collection—smooth fitting from waist to top or mid thigh, swelling out from above the knee to the hem...very often in chiffon, tulle or silk georgette.

Among other favourite silks for afternoon wear are the rich corded silks which make those straight, tube-like frocks which the smartest women are beginning to wear. Taffeta seems to have become one of the hardy annuals of fashion, while shantung and tussore, in their natural crochets that are tipped as winners when late spring merges into early summer.

U.S. as a woman sees it

Two, revolutionary building projects have been in the news, one of which will stand on Chicago's exclusive Lake Shore Drive, and the other on the equally exclusive Sutton Place sector of Manhattan's East River Drive.

Both are apartment house buildings whose occupants will have "unrivalled views" over Lake Michigan and the East River respectively, and both have the usual offices installed at the core of the building.

But there the resemblance, at least outwardly, ends.

Number 880 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago is the first all glass and steel apartment building to be erected in the U.S.

It is in the form of two perfectly rectangular twenty-five-story towers standing at angles to each other.

Designer Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, who performed revolutionary work in this field in 1919 and 1920, says he aimed at achieving the effect of a huge prism in which the "important thing is the play of reflections."

He says also "... creative work has only a single goal, to create order."

Mr. van der Rohe may describe it as a prism but I, in my architecturally uneducated way, would call it a box.

And in my opinion the order he has attained in his "glass menagerie," where families live their lives in rooms of glass from floor to ceiling, is the sterilised order of the science laboratory.

If I felt an inscapable urge to live in a huge apartment house, I should infinitely prefer Mr. I. M. Pei's spiral skyscraper building in New York.

The "Helix" (spiral) is circular instead of rectangular, the outer circle being divided into eight wedges or "pie slices." The inner circle contains the utilities—lifts, kitchens, toilets, etc.

The wedges, each of which measures approximately 800 square feet, with balcony space eight feet deep and 40 feet long, are arranged in a spiral with each "wedge" half a floor (five feet higher or lower than the adjoining ones).

The building will be rented by the square foot instead of by the unit, as will the Chicago project.

This means that a tenant can rent as many "wedges" as he likes and sub-divide them into living and sleeping space as he pleases. If the family multiplies, so families have a habit of doing, the tenant can take on another wedge.

If his income shrinks, he can turn one back to the landlord. The architect says that the arrangement is so flexible that "you can almost turn a 12-room apartment into three fours in an afternoon."

The "Helix's" great advantage is the privacy it ensures both for members of the same family and for neighbouring tenants.

There is all the comfort of being able to "put the children



American silk-tie print with the new, important half-sleeve, accompanied by the even newer pill-box hat and face-covering veil.

Your face is what you make it

By SALLY YOUNG

Did you know that many psychiatrists agree that emotional stability belongs more often to the less dazzling members of femininity than to the heralded glamour girl?

Reasons for this are not difficult to fathom. A beautiful girl may be pumped by herself—and others—only to find her inadequacies catching up with her all at once!

There may be some feature of your face (a nose, could be) that you are self-conscious about. But unless it is actually deforming, accept the irregularity and play it down with make-up which aims, artfully, to highlight your good points.

Lovely skin creates an impression of freshness, an illusion of good looks.

Proper diet, rest and exercise are all important. But a regular skin-care routine, practiced with a certain enjoyment, will help to keep the skin itself smooth-textured.

No skin is lovely unless it is clean. Start with cold cream cleansings. Make a habit of using gentle upward motions when massaging. Two light creamings are more effective than a single heavy one. Follow with soap and water or skin freshener lotion.

If your complexion shows any signs of dryness, of fine lines upstairs to bed" without having to climb flights of stairs to keep an eye on them.

There can be entertaining and high jinks in the living room on the lower level, too, without disturbing the sleep of the world's workers half a storey above.

The building is designed in such a way that no one terrace can overlook another, yet every apartment has the amenities of penthouse-luxuries in New York.

about the eyes, the mouth or on the forehead, acquire a lanolin-rich dry skin cream. This should be applied carefully each night and left on for at least 20 minutes. Leaving a thin film underneath your make-up foundation is also helpful.

Colour in make-up can be an agent of transformation. A hair for experimentation pays off. It is amazing what a simple change in powder-tone can do.

Drabness is easily overcome by a tinge of pink or rose make-up. Once you have mastered the technique of skin care and of applying your chosen cosmetics in the most flattering way, decide that you'll never be careless. Retouch it before it looks the least bit faded.

Your face is what you make it—not only by means of cosmetic aids but by virtue of your head and heart and personality. These can make your eyes starry, can make you please the eye of the beholder for more than any accidental alignment of good features!



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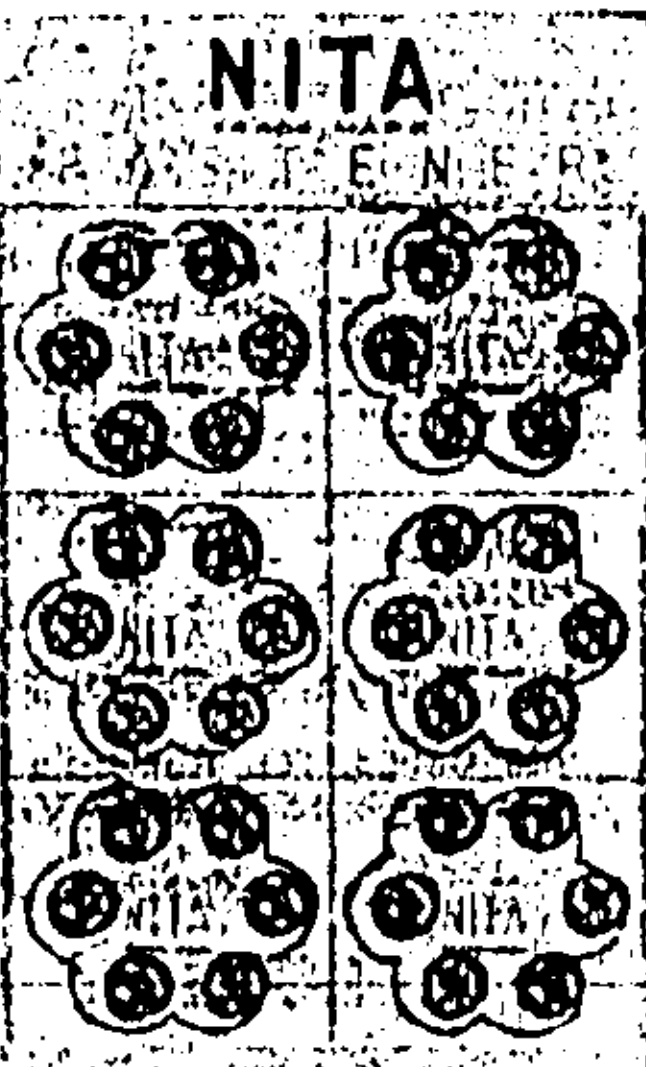
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Between Ourselves

SHORT LOCKS WITH THE FEMININE CUT

By CLAUDIA

Short hair, at least until the autumn may be off. That is the opinion of leading stylists.

After a somewhat slow start, short hair has become a definitely accepted fashion: hair short in the new, feminine manner, quite unlike the mannish tansures of the turbulent 20's in everything but length.

The line of clothes for the coming season has established the short hair styles which are so appropriate and complementary to the asymmetrical silhouette, the tapering skirt, the loosened bodice and the new fullness of sleeves. Above these outlines, the small, neat head is so right that even the styles for longer hair adopt a swathed, cap-fitting contour.

From the stylists too, come useful tips on the special grooming of short hair. The little there is to be seen must be in the very pink of condition.

First, the cut. Consult an expert and discuss the short hair style most suited to your own face, headline and general appearance. Have all cutting, trimming and thinning done by the really expert coiffeurs, once every week or 10 days at least.

Frequent shampoos

Shampoo frequently, including scalp treatment, cream conditioner or special rinses as advised. Naturally curly or permanently waved hair is brushed into place without setting; straight hair set with a cream dressing into a few pin curls which can be brushed out lightly when dry.

Permanently waved hair needs a firm, very light and soft, every two or three months, at the strategic moment from the cutting angle, for, with a short style, the perm cannot be allowed to "grow out."

And here are some of the short hair styles in vogue:
The Shingle—This is a charming cut for a pretty nape and attractive back-hairline. Unless your hair lies naturally into the neck at the back, shaping to a natural point at the nape, this style is not for you, but if it does suit you, it is one of the most attractive styles of all.

The Curly Cut—For naturally curly or very skillfully waved hair, the brief, curly coiffure is delightfully youthful and becoming. The hair is cut about two inches long all over, brushed upward, with maybe an inch or two of parting at the side. This style can be shampooed, brushed into place and dried in incredibly little time.



Daphne Vernon gives a pretty version of the cap cut for the young girl. The hair is perfectly smooth on the crown—ideal for the new small hats—the ends turning up and out in small, soft curls.

The Gamine—A very short cut, brushed out from the crown, the ends tapered to carefully arranged jagged edges...very difficult to wear unless trimmed every few days. Even then, it can miss the mark rather disastrously and look merely untidy.

Cop Cut

The Cop Cut—For the not-quite-so-short brigade, the cap cut is a delightful change. The hair is brushed slantwise across the head from a side parting, kept smooth and glossy until it breaks into a ring of soft, flat curls like the edge of a little cap.

Curly Waves and Bangs—With these short hair styles, come several little extras, some rather reminiscent of the "flapper" era. There are little, modified "check waves," worn just in front of the tops of the ears. There are even "petit curls" if you can bear them—and lots of gay little "bangs" which look as if they have been blown across your forehead by a vagrant breeze.

One style has two little bangs, short and almost straight, just curving toward the centre of the brow, divided by a brief centre parting.

Ann Temple Unhappy moods

I have a husband who is clever, successful, and, more often than not, a grand companion, cheerful and cheering. But occasionally he has moods of deep unhappiness. They seem to come on him for no reason.

I have tried talking him out of them, putting forward all the reasons why he is far more fortunate than most people, but he merely resents everything I say. I have tried being extra cheerful myself, tried being severe, tried coaxing, only to drive him deeper into himself.

These moods lift as suddenly as they descend, but now I am beginning to be resentful. Do you know of any way I could help him and myself too?—TAM.

You have discovered the uselessness of talking him out of his mood. There is your clue. These bouts of wretchedness don't yield to reason—his any more than yours. For in them everything takes on a dark hue and all that is promising in the future. They are a disorder that the human personality is subject to, just as the body is subject to the common cold.

Understanding of this will help you not to take his attitude personally, and, incidentally, that too, is best for him. Avoid being obviously different in any way yourself, but substitute, wherever you can, action for thought.

Let the practicalities occupy your time and mind and push them unobtrusively into his time and mind. The secret of

conquering these distempers is in practical occupation.

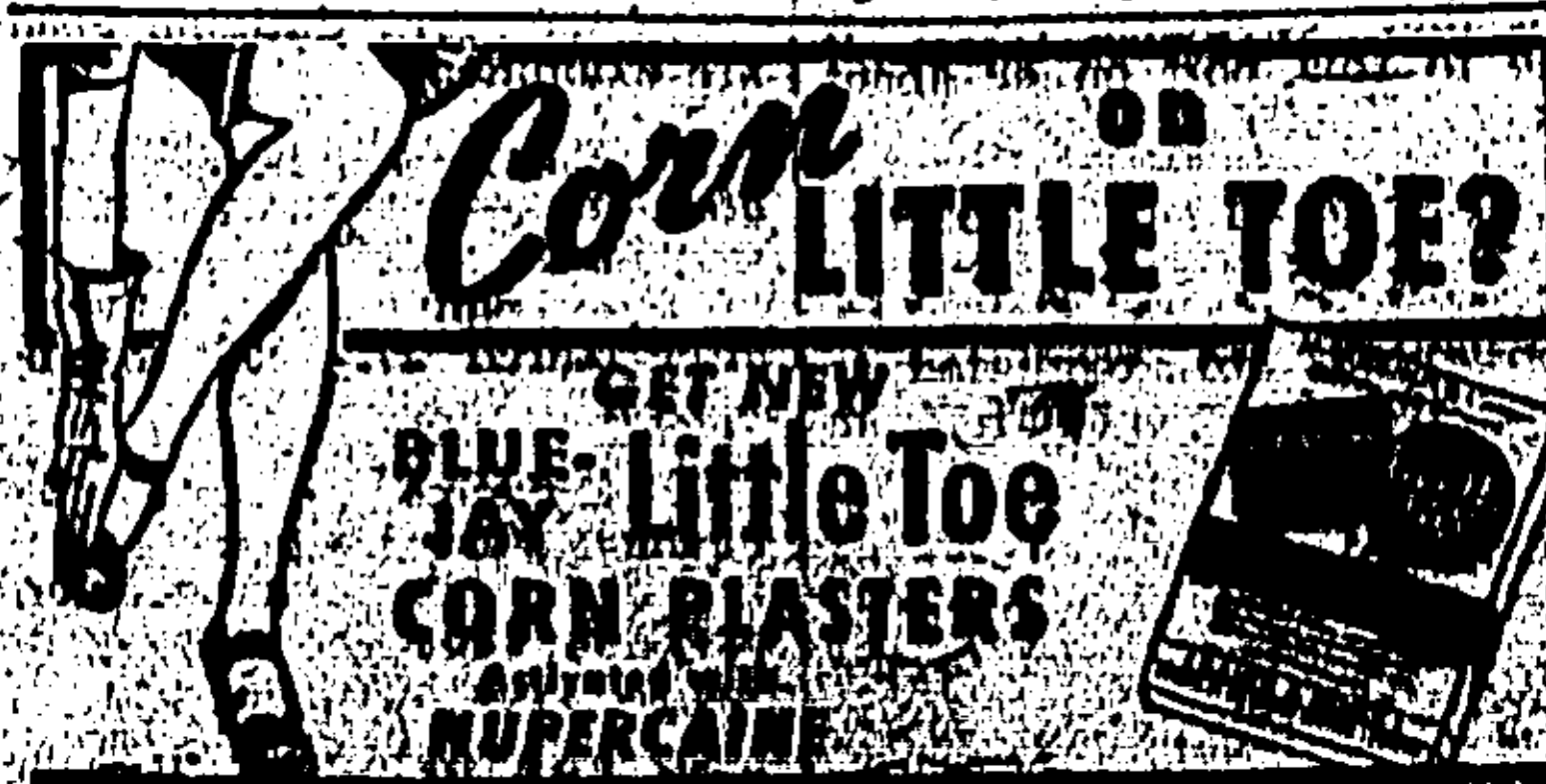
If you can get him to talk about the thing when he is free and cheerful put up the idea that the cure is through discouraging the attack, not giving it a chance. At the first onslaught to refuse all thought and force all mental activity. If he will do this he will gradually develop more and more immunity.

It is the young who suffer most from moods. They are the growing pains of the personality. With maturity comes balance and evenness but it must be remembered that the maturity of the personality is a matter of discipline. It does not come automatically with time.

Would you please say how a girl of 21—of good education—can become a journalist?—M.

First, a course in typing and shorthand and then a job in any capacity on a local newspaper. Through being on the inside in the company of journalists, knowledge is acquired that cannot be obtained in any other way and the opportunity for seeing every side of the work is invaluable. Do say nothing of the chance of being given a test in an emergency and having talent recognised where there is talent.

That merit only is what counts should be encouraging and inspiring to the young journalist, but she must remember that it must be merit on the spot at the right time in the right place.



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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18.

Blonde hair needs extra care

By CAROLYN EARLE

It is easy for the natural blonde to believe that nature has taken care of most of her hair problems, and to coast along comfortably on the crest of her golden waves.

But except in rare cases, when hair remains fair and bright through the years, the time comes when a darkish colour change sets in.

Then the temptation to provide artificial colouring is often hard to resist.

But the blonde who hasn't the inclination, the time, or sufficient means for professional work is wise to let nature have her way with the hair colour, and concentrate on its conditioning, rather than risk the streaks and straw-like quality that may follow inexperienced colouring or bleaching.

Hairstylists agree that blondes are getting scarcer. Not that there aren't just as many tow-haired youngsters about, but less bleaching is being done, even in Hollywood, where spectacular hair colour was once the rule instead of the exception.

They believe that many admirers of light-coloured hair have wrestled with the peroxide bottle until they are tired of it, and in the long run have become reconciled to light brown hair, or even a darker shade.

They are gratified that women now seem to prefer to skip the local colour in favour of texture and hair-health, because it makes their job easier in the long run.

As hair becomes slightly darker, it provides a softer frame for the features, and softening is always needed as we grow older.

Thirty to 35 is given as the golden age of hair. After that chemical changes take place in the tiny pigment cells within the hair shafts that provide the shade or tone.

Why? Nobody knows, just as it cannot be said precisely why the hair turns grey.

During the blinding frenzy, most women seemed to indulge in a light touch at one time or another. The popular white-gold shade was the most spectacular and was produced by bleaching the hair to the limit.

If an operator got beyond that limit, the hair suffered. Not because of the peroxide, but because of the life-sapping ammonia used in the treatment.

But men and women who have made a long study of hair dyeing and bleaching are able to perform what seems to be miracles of colouring, and without damaging results to the hair.

Generally speaking the work should not be done by inexperienced hands. If Goldlocks finds that her tincture is becoming darker, and just can't bear it, let her seek out an operator who is skilled and conscientious. The conscientious part is as important as the efficiency.

Read labels

The medium used may be what is called white henna. There is no such herb. It is just a trade name. A paste is made for this pack by combining powdered magnesium carbonate with peroxide to form a mixture the consistency of whipped cream. A few drops of ammonia are added to hasten the bleaching process.

The pack is applied quickly, timed carefully. A tiny bit is rubbed away at the temples, where the hair is thinnest, to see how the bleaching is progressing. When the right shade is observed, the application is removed.

But that is not the end of the project. The hair shafts will continue to push out from the scalp, and they will be darker than the growth that has been treated.

So they must be touched-up every so often. It is a never-ending affair.

The disappearance of natural appeal, hair that no longer, tones with the colour of the wearer's skin, the need for remedy work to repair the damage is too often the result.

But really good bleaching should not damage hair texture if it is combined with extra special care.

Constant brushing, a weekly shampoo, plus the continual attention of the hair expert, keeps colour and condition good.

Between trips to the beauty salon, nightly massage with the least bit of special hair balm, rubbed into the scalp without getting it into the hair itself, is beneficial.

Once a week a professional oil shampoo and set, the retouch as often as necessary, and the golden halo will retain its light beauty.

The mildest form of hair-colouring is the rinse. It temporarily brings up natural sheen, and enlivens colour. In other words, the hair itself will not become lighter from the use of blond colour rinses, but you get the illusion of gold.

When a rinse is diluted and poured over the hair, the coloring matter is absorbed from the water and will disappear with the next shampoo.

There are various rinses and shampoos that are harmless for home use, and give a very pretty effect. Lemon or camomile rinses are innocuous, but particularly good for light hair.

Used in the last rinsing water, they accent natural highlights and clean up soap or shampoo left over from the shampoo.

The colour content of prepared shampoos, rinses, and some scalp lotions is important, so make a habit of reading labels carefully when buying.

Some have colour which brightens dark hair, but darkens blond hair.

Renommée

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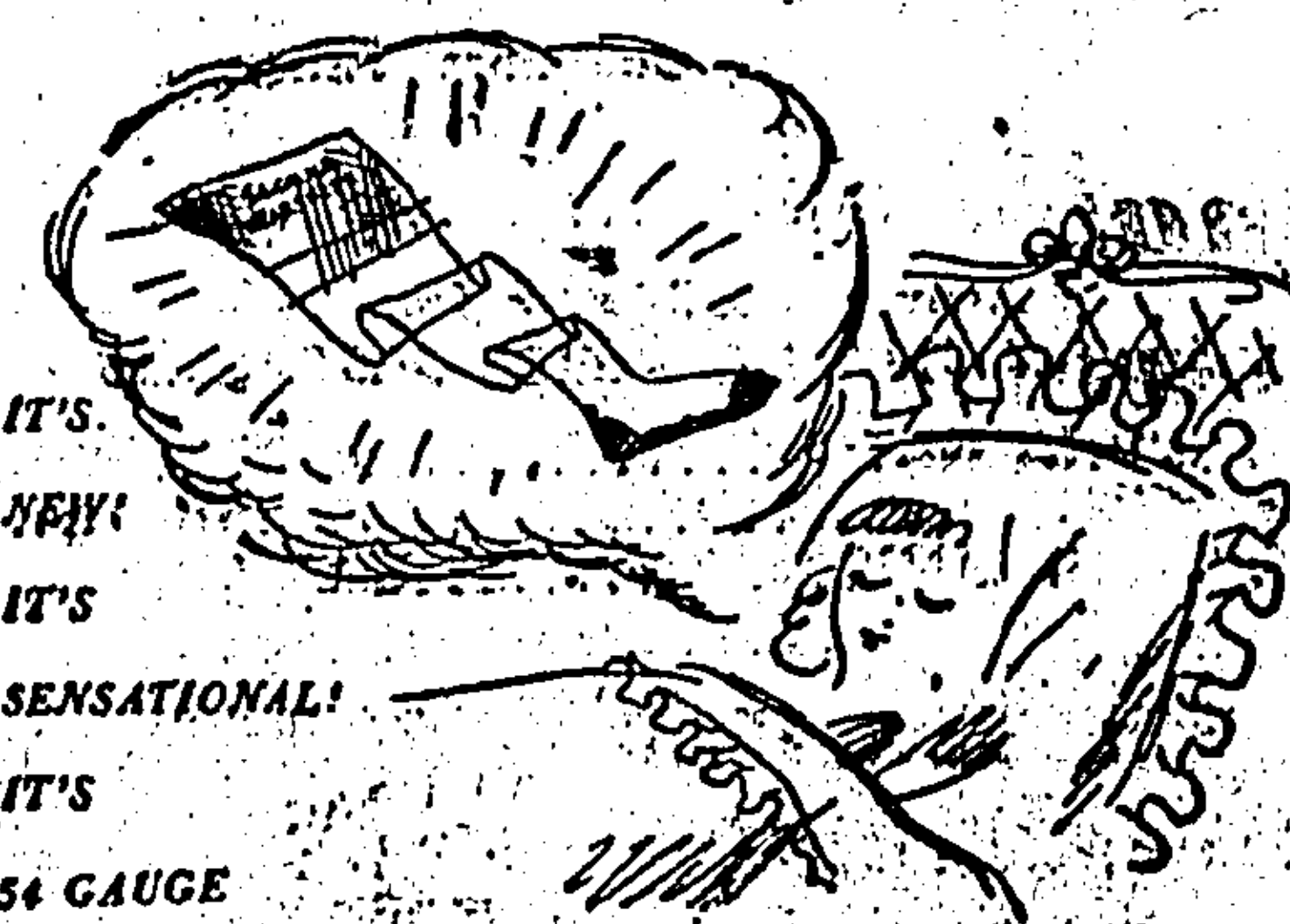
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SHUI HING CO. LTD. OLGA FERRIER

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ROYAL INTER-OCEAN LINES			
SINGAPORE, JAVA PORTS and MACASSAR			
ARRIVALS	SAILINGS		
"TJITJALENGKA"	4th Apr.	10th Apr.	
"VAN HEUTS"	8th Apr.	13th Apr.	
"TJISADANE"	21st Apr.	26th Apr.	
Only to S'pore, Penang & B. Doli			
MANILA, EAST & SOUTH AFRICA & SOUTH AMERICA			
"BOISSEVAIN"	13th Apr.	10th Apr.	
"STRAAT BOENDA"	13th Apr.	4th May	
"STRAAT MALAKKA"	13th May	1st June	
"TEGELBERG"	13th May	1st June	
JAPAN			
"BERLAGE"	9th Apr.	27th Mar.	
"BOISSEVAIN"	9th Apr.	27th Mar.	
"STRAAT BOENDA"	2nd May	17th Apr.	
"STRAAT MALAKKA"	31st May	16th May	
"TEGELBERG"	31st May	16th May	
EUROPE via MANILA and MALAYA			
ARRIVALS	SAILINGS		
"HOOGKERK"	10th April	6th Apr.	
"MEERKERK"	early May	2nd May	
"RYNKERK"	early May	early June	
Through Ss/L issued to Mediterranean and Northern European ports.			
JAPAN			
"HOOGKERK"	5th Apr.	17th April	
"MEERKERK"	1st May	early May	
"RYNKERK"	early June	early May	
KING'S BUILDING, TELEPHONES: 28015 TO 28017			
CHINESE AGENTS: 22 CONNAUGHT ROAD, C. TEL: 3115, 3116, 3117			

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M.V. "AGAMEMNON" 23rd Apr.

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M.S. "DONA NATI" due 29th Mar.

M.V. "BENGAL" due 15th Apr.

M.S. "DONA ANICETA" due 3rd May

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New York Stock Exchange

New York, March 24.

The stock market sank lower despite periodic efforts to advance.

Volume dropped to 1,570,000 shares, total of 1,120 issues were traded. Of these 541 declined, 300 advanced.

The decline was blamed largely on profit-taking. Investment buying continued to give the market a firm footing.

The financial district was pleased with the easy way the market absorbed recent heavy selling.

The market evidently is registering a majority belief that corporation dividends will continue to flow in a rich stream.

Oils gained today, led by Superior Oil of California which jumped three and a half to 220-1/4. Generally, oils were up fractionally.

Warner Brothers Pictures, again the most active issue, was up 1/2 at 14-1/2.

Dow Jones averages: Stocks 75.28; 20 Industrials 209.78; 15

Rails 55.30; 10 Utilities 43.35.

Closing quotations:

Adams Express 22 1/2

Alaska Juneau 3

American Can 110 3/4

Copper 20 1/2

Smelting 51 1/2

Telephone 155

Tobacco 71 3/4

Waterworks 11 1/2

Aviation Corp. 6 1/2

Baldwin Locomotive 10 1/2

Barackall 51 1/2

Bendix Aviation 42

Bethlehem Steel 35

Boeing Aircraft 27 1/2

Borden Co. 51 1/4

Canadian Pacific 14 1/2

J. I. Case 43 1/2

Chrysler 40 1/2

Colgate 40 1/2

Commercial Solvent 16 1/2

Corn Products 70 1/2

Du Pont 67 1/2

Eastman Kodak 46 1/2

General Electric 47 1/2

Motors 77 1/2

Goodrich 84 1/2

Goodyear 51 1/2

Homestead Mining 45 1/2

International Harvester 27

Paper 39 1/2

Tel. & Tel. 12

Johns Manville 49

Kennecott Copper 50 1/2

Montgomery Ward 57

National Distillers 23

Lead 40 1/2

New York Central 12 1/2

Packard Motors 34 1/2

Pan American Airways 0 1/2

Pennsylvania RR 17 1/2

Radio Corp. 15 1/2

Remington Rand 14 1/2

Republic Steel 28 1/2

Reynolds Tobacco 38 1/2

Schenley 30 1/2

Sears Roebuck 44 1/2

Shell Oil 39 1/2

Secony Vacuum 17 1/2

Southern Pacific 52 1/2

Standard Brands 23 1/2

Oil of Calif. 67 1/2

Oil of N. J. 70 1/2

Studebaker 30

Union Bag 29 1/2

Carbide 44 1/2

US Rubber 42 1/2

Steel 32 1/2

Lincs 16 1/2

Westinghouse 34 1/2

Youngstown Sheet & Tube 83 1/2

Gen. Pub. Utilities 17 1/2

Rails made an orderly retreat on the bond market under tight but steady pressure. Raytheon was lower on the curb. Higher were National Radiator, United Shoe Machinery, Clites Service.

Associated Press.

Associated Press.

Associated Press.

Associated Press.

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Associated Press.

Food crisis in Eastern Germany

Berlin, March 24.

The Communist-dominated East German State faces a food crisis.

Reason is the suspension of food deliveries from Western Europe, the anti-Communist newspaper "Social Democrat" said.

The newspaper said Holland, Denmark and Norway have temporarily halted deliveries to the Soviet Zone because the Zone has fallen behind in payments.

"Since these three countries were due to supply vital foodstuffs such as meat and fish, great difficulties have arisen in supplying the Soviet Zone population," said the report.

As a result of the suspension of these deliveries, the paper said, East German officials had decided to exhaust remaining agricultural resources in the Soviet Zone, especially in Mecklenburg.

It added, "The authorities pointed out, however, that these deliveries would be insufficient."

Russian appeal

The "Taegliche Rundschau," official Soviet Army newspaper, appealed to farmers to speed their spring planting.

"Everything in these decisive days depends on the fulfillment of quotas," said the paper.

"One lost day in March during spring cultivation is as bad as a week lost in May."

Meanwhile, the value of the Eastmark fell again in Berlin. One Westmark sold today for 7.8 Eastmarks in the West Berlin currency exchange office. Yesterday the rate was 7.5 Eastmarks for one Westmark.—United Press.

GERMAN-SPANISH TRADE TALKS

Frankfurt, March 24.

West German and Spanish delegations are negotiating here for a trade agreement to replace the current one expiring at the end of this year.

Germany has almost exhausted her import quota under the present agreement, but Spain has so far spent only about half of her own.

German officials are pressing for a new list of goods placing more emphasis on the export of German finished products.

One official said that trade relations between the two countries remained unsatisfactory.

He blamed Spanish reluctance to buy finished goods and the Spanish desire to sell as many consumer goods as possible.

During the past year, he said, German imports had reached about \$2,500,000, while exports amounted to only \$4,000,000.

Germany could not go on buying Spanish products, such as fruit and wine, without being able to export finished goods and consumer goods.

The Spanish delegates were said to have pointed out that the adverse trade balance was caused through large Spanish orders not yet showing in the accounts because of delayed delivery.—Reuter.

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U.S. housing fund almost exhausted

Washington, March 24.

American's building boom has apparently exhausted most of the Federal funds available to help finance private home construction.

This was evident after the Federal Housing Administration tightened up on approval of Government-insured Federal Housing Administration home building mortgages.

The agency has announced that its regional offices cannot make final commitments to insure any mortgage without approval of Washington headquarters.

This was done to permit central headquarters to keep a close check on dwindling funds which once totaled \$6,750,000,000. At present about \$200,000,000 is available for mortgage insurance.

Officials said the new move was purely precautionary. The authority insured about \$150,000,000 worth of loans during January.

Congress at present is considering new legislation to provide the Administration with authority to lend an additional \$1,750,000,000 to \$2,750,000,000.—Associated Press.

Money Market

US dollars relapsed to HK\$30.30 yesterday after Friday's recovery. The opening rate was \$3.34 1/2. At the close it was \$3.30 1/2.

T was put through at HK\$30.30. Sterling was unchanged at HK\$15.20.

Australian pounds dropped a further 10 cents to HK\$12.80. Pounds remained nominal at HK\$12.50 a 100.

Picals dropped 30 cents to HK\$28 a 100. NEI Guilders were stationary at HK\$12.70 a 100.

CHICAGO GAINS

Chicago, March 24. Wheat and soybeans led a sharp upturn of grains in active buying.

All wheat made new highs and for a time sold about \$2.00. Some soybeans and corn deliveries also made new highs.

Soybeans spurred in line with higher prices for crude vegetable oils. South West drought boosted wheat.

Wheat closed 2-1/2 to 2-1/2 higher.

May \$2.23 1/2-1/4.

July \$1.99 1/2-1/4.

September \$2.00 1/2.

December \$2.02 1/2.

Corn 1-1/4 to 1-1/4 higher. May \$1.33 1/2-1/4.

Oats 1/2 to 1/2 higher. May 73 1/2.

Soybeans 2 to 4-1/4 higher. May \$2.56 1/4.—Associated Press.

MANILA CAR TAX

Manila, March 25. A one per cent ad valorem tax on all motor vehicles operating in Manila has been approved by the Municipal Board.

When signed by the Mayor, the bill authorizing the levy will be put into force immediately. Some 33,000 motorists are affected.

It is estimated that the vehicle tax will net the city about 500,000 Pesos. Proceeds will be used for maintenance of roads and bridges.—Associated Press.

U.S. SOFT COAL PRODUCTION

Washington, March 24. The National Coal Association estimated American soft coal production this year through March 18 at 71,592,000 tons. In the same period last year it was 117,622,000 tons.—Associated Press.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

S.S. "EMPIRE GLENCOE"

Consignees are hereby notified that captioned vessel is due to this port on or about March 25, 1950.

All cargo will be discharged to the Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf & Godown Co., Ltd. Consignees are requested to make immediate delivery from steamer godowns.

Optional cargo will not be discharged here unless notice has been given prior to the vessel's arrival.

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LETHARGY ON WOOL MARKETS

Boston, March 24.

American wool markets were lethargic last week.

The situation is in contrast with that of leading foreign markets where broad competition among world buyers is cutting down supplies rapidly and keeping prices near post-war peaks.

Arrivals of foreign apparel wool are holding a generally steady pace, according to the Commercial Bulletin, in spite of suspended shipments from Montevideo. The paper says:

"But these afford only a modicum of spot or offlot business in the market here. So much of the import business is on direct mill account, moreover, that it means prior business and does not affect the prevailing lackness of demand at present."

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES

ARRIVALS FROM

"PHAM HUU CHI" Halphong 29th Mar.
 "RINGER" Europe 30th Apr.
 "CHAMPOLLION" Marseilles 8th May

SAILINGS TO

"CHAMPOLLION" Marseilles via Manila 8th May
 "LA MARSEILLAISE" Yokohama & Kobe 30th May
 "LA MARSEILLAISE" Marseilles via Manila 10th June

FREIGHT SERVICE

"FALAISE" N. Africa & Europe 20th Apr.
 "STE MERE EGLISE" N. Africa & Europe 15th May

FOR PORT SAID, TUNIS, MARSEILLES, ALGIERS, ORAN, TANGIER, CASABLANCA, HAVRE, DUNKIRK, ANTWERP & ROTTERDAM.

"PIGNEAU DE BEHAINE" Saigon 29th Mar.
 "RINGER" Saigon 12th Apr.

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 S.S. "CITRUS PACKER" Due about 8th May, 1950.

Direct for New York, Baltimore & Philadelphia
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Also accepting transshipment cargo for Gulf Ports

For freight and further particulars apply:-

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IVARAN LINES

FAR EAST SERVICE
 FROM U.S. ATLANTIC COAST PORTS

m.v. "IGADI" due about 9th Apr. 1950.
 m.v. "ALF LINDBERG" " 2nd May 1950.

SAILING FOR
 TSINGTAO, TAKU BAR & PHILIPPINES

m.v. "ALF LINDBERG" sails about 3rd May 1950.

DIRECT FOR U.S. ATLANTIC COAST
 VIA PANAMA

m.v. "IGADI" sails about 10th Apr. 1950.

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THE PACIFIC ORIENT EXPRESS LINE

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NEXT SAILINGS

M.S. "GRETE MAERSK" Mar. 28
 M.S. "OLGA MAERSK" Apr. 9
 M.S. "LAURA MAERSK" Apr. 24

TANKS OF ALL SIZES AVAILABLE FOR BULK OIL

ARRIVALS FROM U.S.A.

M.S. "GERTRUDE MAERSK" Apr. 2
 M.S. "CORNELIUS MAERSK" Apr. 9
 M.S. "LEISE MAERSK" Apr. 22

For Freight and Further Particulars please apply to:-

JEBSEN & CO.
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 Tel. 26051

Shipping Intelligence

Shipping Arrivals

YESTERDAY

Empire Glenoe (Patison) ex-Manila.

TODAY

Indian Mail (Everett) ex-Atlantic Coast.

TOMORROW

Nazara (Gillman) ex-Europe.
 Star Archure (Everett) ex-Batavia.
 Torruva (Thorsen) ex-Europe.

Shipping Departures

YESTERDAY

Holstevald (RIL) for Japan.
 Proby Moller (Mollers) for Okinawa.
 Ocean Mail (Everett) for Atlantic Coast.
 Tilsdale (RIL) for Singapore.

TODAY

Automelon (D & S) for Europe.
 Fengtien (D & S) for Yokohama.
 Hupei (D & S) for Tientsin.
 Bangala (Mac Mac) for Japan.

TOMORROW

Heriage (RIL) for Japan.
 Indian Mail (Everett) for Atlantic Coast.
 Talsing (D & S) for Kure.

Vessels in Port

A. Earhart (Mollers) K.A.
 Alyce (Ever) K.W.
 Andros (Loray) K.W.
 Automelon (D & S) A.J.
 Bradavert (Everett) G.C.
 Buai (Larsson) O.D.
 Chung Tung (China SS) Yau.
 Chongking (CMBN) Yau.
 Chee Hing (Walton) Yau.
 Chiao Jen (CMBN) Yau.
 China Transport (Jardine) Yau.
 Chu Ching (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Chumang (Jardine) D.S.
 Cloverlock (Roland) G.C.
 Colonia (Nolaco) K.B.
 Colon (Colonial) D.S.
 Duxon (D & S) A.J.
 Duxon Aurora (D & S) A.J.
 Duxon (CMBN) Yau.
 Eastern Trader (G. Southern) K.B.
 Empire Glenoe (Patison) Yau.
 Empire Park (Larson) Yau.
 Fengtien (D & S) K.W.
 Flying Cloud (Patison) K.W.
 Flying Dragon (Walton) Yau.
 Fook Wah (Holly) Yau.
 Fort Sandus (ASO) N. Anch.
 Fort Charlotte (RFA) K.B.
 Germa (RIL) B.S.
 Grandview (Sanson) S.S.
 Great Eagle (Colon) Yau.
 Green Range (RFA) S.S.
 Hai Chung (Lee Bros) S.S.
 Hai Hala (CMBN) S.S.
 Hai Kan (CMBN) S.S.
 Hai Lin (Lee Bros) Yau.
 Hai Nan (Jardine) Yau.
 Hai Ping (Jardine) D.S.
 Hai Ping (D & S) D.S.
 Ho Kwang (APC) Yau.
 Hock Lee (Eastern) W.P.
 Hock Lee (Eastern) W.P.
 Hunan (D & S) H.S.
 Hung Cheng (CMBN) S.C.
 Inchuan (Williamson) R.U.
 Inchuan (Williamson) R.U.
 Inchuan (Williamson) R.U.
 Johnson (Wawer) S.C.
 Koi Jin (Tak Kw) Yau.
 Lady Wolmer (Roland) K.B.
 Lady Shavnan (Eastern) K.B.
 Lee Che (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Leong Dee (Roland) Yau.
 Lin Shen (Jebhun) Yau.
 Lu Yi (DOTRA) S.C.
 Margaret (Mollers) Yau.
 Margaret (Mollers) Yau.
 Maxwell (Brandt) S.C.
 Mei Ling (Dotra) Yau.
 Ming Chung (Yau) Yau.
 Minama (Larson) K.B.
 Molder (Eastern) K.B.
 Nan Ching (Eastern) Yau.
 Nan Hai (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Nankin Victory (China Union) K.B.
 Nellore (Mac Mac) S.C.
 New World (USL) A.S.
 Nu Chang (Ming Sun) C.W.
 Oshay (Chung Hing) K.B.
 Patrocius (D & S) K.B.
 Pei Ming (Kor Tai Hong) Yau.
 Pei Ming (Kor Tai Hong) Yau.
 Pignau De Behaine (MM) D.S.
 Pollava (Metrol) B.S.
 Porang (D & S) B.S.
 Prince Salvor (Mollers) Yau.
 Ramona (Walton) Yau.
 Ridderkirk (RIL) A.J.
 Roita (Carroll) Yau.
 Sabre Canin (Jardine) A.J.
 Sacramento (HKS) K.B.
 Sagen (Eastern) K.B.
 San Antonio (Yick Yuen) Yau.
 Sanbay (King Tai) S.C.
 San Eduardo (Mannors) Yau.
 San Gabriel (Mannors) Yau.
 San Miguel (Mannors) S.C.
 San Dyle (Jebhun) D.S.
 San Rafael (Mannors) Yau.
 San Roberto (Mannors) Yau.
 Bangala (Mac Mac) K.B.
 Silvervalent (RIL) K.W.
 Sin Soon Lee (Lee Bros) Yau.
 Sing Hing (Tong An) Yau.
 Smith Hing (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Soochow (D & S) K.W.
 Sei Yuen (E & O) Yau.
 Tadah (Hing S/B) Yau.
 Talsinghuan (Jebhun) S.S.
 Talsing (D & S) A.P.C.
 Tai Ping Shao (APO) A.P.C.
 Tai Po Shan (Shun Cheung) S.C.
 Tala De Larina (Trinity) A.J.
 Teh Hu (Teh Hu S/B) S.C.
 Tung Keng (CMBN) K.B.
 Tulsodak (RIL) K.B.
 Tulsodak (RIL) K.B.
 Ting Yuen (Ming Sun) S.C.
 Tomak (PZ KNT) A.J.
 Towler (Larson) K.B.
 Trafal (Mollers) S.S.
 Transuebar (E. A.) Yau.
 Tual Er (CMBN) Yau.
 Valve (Hing Hing) Yau.
 Wei Ching (Yau) Yau.
 Wen Hing (China Star) Yau.
 Wing Hing (Jardine) S.C.
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 Yung Hing (Dotra) Yau.
 Yim (Lee Bros) Yau.

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 Flying Cloud (Patison) K.W.
 Flying Dragon (Walton) Yau.
 Fook Wah (Holly) Yau.
 Fort Sandus (ASO) N. Anch.
 Fort Charlotte (RFA) K.B.
 Germa (RIL) B.S.
 Grandview (Sanson) S.S.
 Great Eagle (Colon) Yau.
 Green Range (RFA) S.S.
 Hai Chung (Lee Bros) S.S.
 Hai Hala (CMBN) S.S.
 Hai Kan (CMBN) S.S.
 Hai Lin (Lee Bros) Yau.
 Hai Nan (Jardine) Yau.
 Hai Ping (Jardine) D.S.
 Hai Ping (D & S) D.S.
 Ho Kwang (APC) Yau.
 Hock Lee (Eastern) W.P.
 Hock Lee (Eastern) W.P.
 Hunan (D & S) H.S.
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 Inchuan (Williamson) R.U.
 Inchuan (Williamson) R.U.
 Inchuan (Williamson) R.U.
 Johnson (Wawer) S.C.
 Koi Jin (Tak Kw) Yau.
 Lady Wolmer (Roland) K.B.
 Lady Shavnan (Eastern) K.B.
 Lee Che (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Leong Dee (Roland) Yau.
 Lin Shen (Jebhun) Yau.
 Lu Yi (DOTRA) S.C.
 Margaret (Mollers) Yau.
 Margaret (Mollers) Yau.
 Maxwell (Brandt) S.C.
 Mei Ling (Dotra) Yau.
 Ming Chung (Yau) Yau.
 Minama (Larson) K.B.
 Molder (Eastern) K.B.
 Nan Ching (Eastern) Yau.
 Nan Hai (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Nankin Victory (China Union) K.B.
 Nellore (Mac Mac) S.C.
 New World (USL) A.S.
 Nu Chang (Ming Sun) C.W.
 Oshay (Chung Hing) K.B.
 Patrocius (D & S) K.B.
 Pei Ming (Kor Tai Hong) Yau.
 Pei Ming (Kor Tai Hong) Yau.
 Pignau De Behaine (MM) D.S.
 Pollava (Metrol) B.S.
 Porang (D & S) B.S.
 Prince Salvor (Mollers) Yau.
 Ramona (Walton) Yau.
 Ridderkirk (RIL) A.J.
 Roita (Carroll) Yau.
 Sabre Canin (Jardine) A.J.
 Sacramento (HKS) K.B.
 Sagen (Eastern) K.B.
 San Antonio (Yick Yuen) Yau.
 Sanbay (King Tai) S.C.
 San Eduardo (Mannors) Yau.
 San Gabriel (Mannors) Yau.
 San Miguel (Mannors) S.C.
 San Dyle (Jebhun) D.S.
 San Rafael (Mannors) Yau.
 San Roberto (Mannors) Yau.
 Bangala (Mac Mac) K.B.
 Silvervalent (RIL) K.W.
 Sin Soon Lee (Lee Bros) Yau.
 Sing Hing (Tong An) Yau.
 Smith Hing (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Soochow (D & S) K.W.
 Sei Yuen (E & O) Yau.
 Tadah (Hing S/B) Yau.
 Talsinghuan (Jebhun) S.S.
 Talsing (D & S) A.P.C.
 Tai Ping Shao (APO) A.P.C.
 Tai Po Shan (Shun Cheung) S.C.
 Tala De Larina (Trinity) A.J.
 Teh Hu (Teh Hu S/B) S.C.
 Tung Keng (CMBN) K.B.
 Tulsodak (RIL) K.B.
 Tulsodak (RIL) K.B.
 Ting Yuen (Ming Sun) S.C.
 Tomak (PZ KNT) A.J.
 Towler (Larson) K.B.
 Trafal (Mollers) S.S.
 Transuebar (E. A.) Yau.
 Tual Er (CMBN) Yau.
 Valve (Hing Hing) Yau.
 Wei Ching (Yau) Yau.
 Wen Hing (China Star) Yau.
 Wing Hing (Jardine) S.C.
 Yung Yau (Ming Sun) S.C.
 Yen Keng (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Yung Hing (Dotra) Yau.
 Yim (Lee Bros) Yau.

Shipping Arrivals

YESTERDAY

Empire Glenoe (Patison) ex-Manila.

TODAY

Indian Mail (Everett) ex-Atlantic Coast.

TOMORROW

Nazara (Gillman) ex-Europe.
 Star Archure (Everett) ex-Batavia.
 Torruva (Thorsen) ex-Europe.

Shipping Departures

YESTERDAY

Holstevald (RIL) for Japan.
 Proby Moller (Mollers) for Okinawa.
 Ocean Mail (Everett) for Atlantic Coast.
 Tilsdale (RIL) for Singapore.

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Automelon (D & S) for Europe.
 Fengtien (D & S) for Yokohama.
 Hupei (D & S) for Tientsin.
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TOMORROW

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 Indian Mail (Everett) for Atlantic Coast.
 Talsing (D & S) for Kure.

Vessels in Port

A. Earhart (Mollers) K.A.
 Alyce (Ever) K.W.
 Andros (Loray) K.W.
 Automelon (D & S) A.J.
 Bradavert (Everett) G.C.
 Buai (Larsson) O.D.
 Chung Tung (China SS) Yau.
 Chongking (CMBN) Yau.
 Chee Hing (Walton) Yau.
 Chiao Jen (CMBN) Yau.
 China Transport (Jardine) Yau.
 Chu Ching (Ming Sun) Yau.
 Chumang (Jardine) D.S.
 Cloverlock (Roland) G.C.
 Colonia (Nolaco) K.B.
 Colon (Colonial) D.S.
 Duxon (D & S) A.J.
 Duxon Aurora (D & S) A.J.
 Duxon (CMBN) Yau.
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 Flying Cloud (Patison) K.W.
 Flying Dragon (Walton) Yau.
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SAILINGS TO		
"HUPEN"	Inchon & Tientsin	10 a.m. 20th Mar.
"FENGTIEN"	Keelung, Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	10 a.m. 20th Mar.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 28th Mar.
"HUNAN"	Tsingtao & Tientsin	5 p.m. 29th Mar.
"NEWCHWANG"	Bangkok	5 p.m. 30th Mar.
"SIANSI"	Yokohama, Nagoya, Osaka & Kobe	5 p.m. 31st Mar.
"SHENGKING"	Keelung	5 p.m. 4th Apr.
"YUNNAN"	Singapore	15th Apr.
"ANHUI"	Singapore, Penang & Belawan	3 p.m. 16th Apr.
Sails from Custodian Wharf.		
ARRIVALS FROM		
"SIANSI"	Bangkok	5 p.m. 27th Mar.
"HANYANG"	Tientsin & Tsingtao	27th/28th Mar.
"KWEIYANG"	Bangkok	p.m. 28th Mar.
RIVER SERVICE		
Hongkong/Macao	Macao/Hongkong	
Dept. Hongkong	Arr. Hongkong	
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"AUTOMEDON"	Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool, & Glasgow	26th Mar.
"PATROCLUS"	Havre & Liverpool	4th Apr.
"ANTIOCHUS"	Genoa, Marseilles, Liverpool, & Glasgow	25th Apr.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"PATROCLUS"	U.K. via Straits	In Port
"ANKING"	U.K. & Rotterdam via Straits	20th Mar.
"ANTIOCHUS"	U.K. via Straits	31st Mar.
"TELEMACHUS"	U.K. via Jeddah & Straits	2nd Apr.
"AUTOLYCUS"	U.K. via Straits	11th Apr.
"MENTOR"	U.K. via Straits	14th Apr.

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AUSTRALIAN ORIENTAL LINE LTD./CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD. JOINT SERVICE

SAILINGS TO		
"TAIPING"	Kure	7 a.m. 27th Mar.
"CHANGSHA"	Sydney & Melbourne	7th Apr.
"TAIPING"	Sydney & Melbourne	12th Apr.
"CHANGTE"	Japan	4th week Apr.
ARRIVALS FROM		
"SOOCHOW"	Australia	In Port
"TAIPING"	Australia & Manila	In Port
"CHANGSHA"	Japan	4th Apr.
"TAIPING"	Kure	9th Apr.
"CHANGTE"	Australia & Manila	3rd week Apr.

All the above subject to alteration without notice. For Passage and Freight particulars please apply to:

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"VASSILIS"	do	9th Apr.
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Softball:

Americans stage strong come-back to beat Jaguars

(By "GRANDSTAND")

Frank Cleary's Americans unleashed a 9-hit barrage to overcome an early three-run deficit and eventually emerge 5-2 winners over the Jaguars in the first of their current play-off games.

Civil Service shutout Caltex 9-0 in the Inter-Hong tussle, while the Pirates conceded a game to the Canuckettes in the Ladies League.

In the Junior League, the Jaguar Cubs were extended by the Aces to nine events before they pulled through with a 6-5 noseout.

for the minor loop to end in a triple tie.

The Americans were too powerful with the stick yesterday afternoon and try as they would, the Jags were unable to stem the tide of base-hits.

In the third, the Americans bunched up four solid blows, which produced four runs, to take the lead, and added two more in each of the fourth and fifth.

A final run in the sixth on a wild pitch just about clinched the issue.

The Jaguars collected seven blows in their turn with the hickory, but runners were left stranded as the Yanks bore down with tight fielding.

San Miguel Brewery Darts League

(By "BULLSEYE")

This week, with the Dockyard Workmen having played off their outstanding game, we can now see that they are two points the lead in Section 1.

Boundary Street are still maintaining their excellent standard of play and have managed to keep in the first three throughout the season.

In Section 2 the 23 Field Regt are still overcoming all opposition and holding on to their four-point lead.

Although there was some excellent scoring this week, the highest individual score of 104 made by S/Sgt Clarke last week still remains unbeaten.

Results of matches played on March 17:

SECTION 1	
33 General Hospital 2, HQ Land Forces 4.	
40 HM Commando 2, RAP Kai Tak 4.	
AC Mosa Boundary Rd 5, 100 Bds Tamar 1.	
42 HM Commando 3, Military Police HQ 1.	
Java Bdy & HKCTU 2, Dockyard Workmen 1.	
119 LAA Bdy RA 4, 42 LAA Bdy 2.	
Murray Barracks 2, AC Mosa Boundary Rd 4.	

LEAGUE STANDING	
	P W D L F A Pts
Dockyard Workmen	15 10 4 1 52 22 24
AC Mosa Boundary Rd	15 9 4 2 50 24 22
119 LAA Bdy RA	14 10 1 3 42 21 21
42 HM Commando	14 10 1 3 46 20 21
AC Mosa Boundary Rd	15 8 4 3 42 22 23
40 HM Commando	15 7 0 4 40 22 20
100 Bds Tamar	15 5 2 4 40 22 20
HQ Land Forces	15 5 0 4 37 21 15
Java Bdy & HKCTU	15 5 0 4 42 21 14
33 General Hospital	15 5 0 4 40 21 13
42 HM Commando 3	15 5 0 4 38 21 12
42 HM Commando	15 5 0 4 38 21 12
Military Police HQ	15 5 0 4 38 21 12
HC 3 Commando Bde	15 5 0 4 38 21 12
Murray Barracks	15 5 0 4 38 21 12

SECTION 2	
23 Field Regt RA 4, Arty & Sig 2.	
14 Field Regt RA 4, 27 Anti Tank Bty 2.	
8 Stafford Regt 4, 27 Brigade HQ 2.	
NRSL 4, 28 Brigade HQ 2.	
2 Leicesters 2, 40 Div B Signal 2.	

LEAGUE STANDING	
	P W D L F A Pts
23 Field Regt RA	15 13 1 1 50 19 27
1 B. Staffords	15 9 5 1 52 22 23
KFLI	15 11 0 4 43 22 22
3 Royal Tank Regt	15 10 2 3 45 21 21
25 Field Regt RA	15 8 4 3 40 24 20
27 Anti Tank Bty RA	15 8 2 4 43 21 20
1 Royal Leicesters	15 8 4 3 43 20 20
14 Field Regt RA	15 8 4 3 43 20 19
Arty & Sig	15 7 5 3 41 27 17
28 Brigade HQ	15 7 1 7 38 24 16
54 Field Squadron RE	15 7 0 8 37 24 14
40 Division HQ	15 6 3 7 38 24 18
49 Div Royal Signals	15 6 0 9 25 20 12
26 HQ Division	15 4 1 10 30 47 9

TEN WICKETS FOR NO RUNS

Capetown, March 25.
Winton Edwards today took all ten wickets for no runs when playing for Queen's College against Cheleadowne College at Queenstown.

He bowled five batsmen and had five caught during his spell of 7.5 overs. Cheleadowne were all out for ten runs.—Reuter.

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HKFA does not relish fair comment or honest criticism

(By "ROYER")

The Hong Kong Football Association, as the body governing amateur soccer in this Colony, obviously does not relish the idea of fair comment or honest criticism.

The outburst which took place at the Council Meeting of the Association on Tuesday concerning articles appearing in a certain newspaper clearly supports this point of view.

As Tuesday's tirade was obviously directed against articles appearing in the columns of the "China Mail" and in particular to an article in this paper on Saturday, March 18, the opportunity is here taken to refute, most emphatically, the slanderous accusation that such articles are mischievous.

As to the allegation that the articles under reference lack constructive criticism, it might be stated that the writer has from time to time put forward concrete suggestions for a strengthening of the position of the HKFA and the elimination of certain undesirable features which characterise the game in this Colony.

The Association, for reasons best known to itself, has failed to act on the suggestions put forward. The accusation regarding the absence of constructive criticism is therefore totally unfounded and a deliberate attempt to misrepresent the facts.

At Tuesday's Council Meeting, great pains were taken to deny that there was any rough play during the games at Saigon, the implication being that allegations of rough play had been made in a newspaper article.

Unusual course

It would seem that certain players also took the unusual course of coming forward to state that the injuries received by them were not caused by rough play.

As no allegations whatsoever regarding rough play were made in any newspaper article, the reason for the strenuous denials in this direction is not understood; it would seem that those concerned have taken hold of the wrong end of the stick.

While it may be true that the aims of the Association are to make friends and promote goodwill in the Far Eastern football world and that interports arranged for this purpose, it might be said that the HKFA has proceeded about the matter in a very peculiar manner.

For example, it is difficult to understand why the Association saw fit, before deciding upon the Saigon visit, to send a delegation to see the French Consul and obtain from that official a guarantee that the Saigon players would be on their best behaviour.

While it is admitted that certain of the Saigon players were guilty of bad sportsmanship when they visited Hong Kong last year, it is felt that if one wishes to cement the bonds of friendship and promote goodwill, one should be prepared to forgive and forget.

It cannot be said that the action of the HKFA in digging up the past and asking for a guarantee from the French Consul was conducive to the improvement of friendly relations.

Feeling of players

One can just imagine how the Saigon players must have felt when they were told that the HKFA had accepted the invitation of their Association only after the French Consul had given a guarantee that they would be on their best behaviour.

In connection with the enquiry by a member of the HKFA Council as to what could be done about the "wicked" articles "fucking" the Association, it might perhaps be in order to remind the individual concerned that this is still a British Colony.

One of the fundamental rights of those who are privileged to live under the British flag is the right to speak and comment freely, so long as one does not overstep the bounds of "fair" and honest comment or criticism.

The right of free speech is recognised by Government, which is often "attacked" itself but which does not seek, as certain members of the HKFA apparently seek, to muzzle those who venture to criticise or "attack" it.

Undesirable features

If the HKFA does not wish to be criticised, it can remedy the position by asserting itself insofar as the existing state of football in this Colony is concerned and eliminating all the undesirable features which now characterise the game and make it stink.

As to the treatment accorded the Hong Kong players while in Saigon and the most emphatic denial of the allegation that the managers stayed away from the team, the following excerpts from a "new" sport appearing in a contemporary make interesting reading—

"A very dissatisfied and disappointed batch of Hong Kong footballers returned to the Colony yesterday afternoon by Cathay Pacific Airways plane from Saigon where they went for the soccer interport."

"All the players voiced their dissatisfaction over the manner they were treated while in Saigon. The players were accommodated in a Chinese hotel outside the city, while the managers were put up in a better hotel in the city."

"Nothing was apparently done for the team; the players had to fend for their own amusement and the majority stayed in the hotel most of the time. The managers were seldom with the team, owing to the distance and inconvenience in travelling."

Having regard to the fact that the news report under reference was based on information gleaned from the players immediately after their return, comment on what was said at the HKFA Council Meeting regarding the relevant points would be superfluous.

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Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore.		
HOMEWARDS		
"CARTHAGE"	14th April	18th May
"CORFU"	28th May	12th June
"CANTON"	9th June	10th July
"CARTHAGE"	7th July	9th August
"CORFU"	4th August	8th September
"CANTON"	1st September	2nd October

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LEAVES HONG KONG		
"SHILLONG"	22nd April	Kobe & Yokohama
HOMEWARDS		
"BOUDAN"	15th April	London & Continent
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*s.s. "SANGOLA"	In port	from Calcutta, & Rangoon via Straits.
	sails 20th Mar.	for Japan.
*s.s. "TAIHEA"	due 30th Apr.	from Japan.
	sails 31st Apr.	for Straits, Rangoon Calcutta.

* Three ships have Refrigerated Cargo space.

P. & O. B.I. JOINT SERVICE

m.s. "FEMBA"	due 28th Mar.	from Bombay,
	sails 31st Mar.	for Japan,
m.s. "OZARDA"	due 10th Apr.	from Persian Gulf, Dore
		Bay & Straits,
	sails 21st Apr.	for Japan,

* Accepts cargo on through bills of lading for Persian Gulf Ports

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"NELLORE"	loads 9th Apr.	for Manila, Rabaul, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Wellington, Auckland, Lyttelton & Dunedin. Calls New Zealand if sufficient inducement.
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* Accepts cargo for New Zealand & Pacific Island ports on through bills of lading.

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route, and the routes and sailings are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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ARRIVALS FROM U.S.A.

"STEEL VENDOR"	Sails N.Y. Sails S.F. Due H.K.
"STEEL VOYAGER"	Sailed Sailed 2nd Apr.
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	Sailed 21st Apr. 9th May 28th May

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ARRIVALS FROM EUROPE

m.v.	"HEMLAND"	27th Mar.	2nd Apr.
m.v.	"TONGHAI"	27th Mar.	2nd Apr.
m.v.	"BALI"	27th Mar.	2nd Apr.

SAILINGS TO EUROPE

m.v. "NAGARA"	Sails N.Y. Sails S.F. Due H.K.
m.v. "HEMLAND"	Sailed Sailed 2nd Apr.

ADEN, PORT SAID, GENOA, MARSEILLES, TANGIER, CASABLANCA, ANTWERP, ROTTERDAM, BREMEN, HAMBURG, COPENHAGEN, HELSINKI, GOTHENBURG, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Aarhus.

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